LABOR- 1940
DISCRIMINATION

150 CCC COLORED CAMPS; ONLY 2 HAVE RACE PERSONNEL

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Pennsylvania Congressman Makes Serious Charges Against Ickes, Wallace On Floor of House.

9-7-40

WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 5—Charges of racial discrimination in the administration of the Civilian Conservation Corps were made on the floor of the House last Tuesday by Representative Chester H. Gross, Republican, of Pennsylvania.

Henry A. Wallace, Democratic candidate for Vice President, and Harold L. Ickes, Secretary of the Interior, were blamed by Mr. Gross for the ignoring of colored people in the appointment of staff officers, educational advisers, superintendents, technicians, engineers, foresters, physicians, dentists, and other employees.

Pittsburgh Pa

Mr. Gross said:

"Mr. Speaker, I am informed that there are 150 Negro C. C. C. camps in the country and that there are only two of these camps that have colored personnel.

Pittsburgh Pa

"Now, I do believe that they might as well give the colored people of this country who are capable a break, and here is one place they could at least supply colored doctors and colored chaplains for these colored boys.

"If my information is correct, there are two men in the administration who are responsible for this. The one is 'Honest Harold' Ickes, Secretary of the Interior, and the other is Henry A. Wallace, Secretary of Agriculture.

"Mr. Ickes presented Marian Anderson when she sang here in the Capital and Secretary Wallace made a speech at Tuskegee Institute. These two men were at the same time conspiring to keep qualified colored people confined in their place in the sun and now they are in turn asking for the support of these same people. They might do well to explain their actions."

Red Caps' Troubles

Until red cap porters at railroad stations were persuaded that they should be regarded as railroad employees and seek regular wages instead of tips, many of them made a fair living and the waiting list of applicants was crowded.

SEP 28 1940

Red caps probably expected that railroads would pay them wages in addition to their tips which passengers gave them, but in this they were deceived.

What happened is that the roads assessed passengers ten cents per bag, assigned the porters to collect it and turn it over to the company. Out of this money, wages of thirty cents an hour are now paid to the red caps.

Afro American

Two things happened immediately:

First, the traveling public was willing to tip the porter but resented the railroads' assessments. Passengers began carrying their own bags and parcels.

Second, red caps experienced an immediate 25 to 30 per cent reduction in earnings.

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As the red cap porter sees it, he is entitled to be regarded as a regular employee of the railroad and performs a service as necessary as other employees. For this work he is entitled to regular wages.

As the company sees it, since it must hire red caps to carry bags of passengers, it has a right to the fees which passengers pay.

Baltimore

As the public sees it, 10 cents a bag is excessive when parcels are small and exceed three in number. Railroads, like hotels and stores, should furnish service of porters without fixing definite charges.

Md.

Nobody is satisfied with the present arrangement. The roads are forced to print extra baggage checks and hire checkers. Passengers resent the fixed charge of 10 cents a bag. Red caps are making less money.

The trouble lies in the fact that none of us has properly recognized the valuable service red caps render. To get a passenger quickly, comfortably and safely into his train seat with his belongings is an important job.

The red cap renders services to the passenger equal to those of a train conductor. He is information bureau, porter and guide. He shows a passenger where to get ON. The conductor merely shows him where to get OFF. To be sure, the conductor has other duties, but in the main, they are services more significant for the company than for the passenger.

We don't tip a conductor. The roads pay his salary and charge passengers fare sufficient to cover it.

Eventually they must do the same thing with red caps, and it is up to the Federal Government to see that the railroads do it.

After all, it's this administration which, in this period of rising prices, is responsible for letting red caps get out on a limb where they must take a 30 per cent wage cut.

PRESIDENT IS INCONSISTENT

OCT 3 1940

President Roosevelt has told manufacturers of defense materials that labor standards must not be sacrificed to speed orders and that the government would expect them to comply with the wage and hour laws and regulations.

This is fine; as a matter of fact we are for it as long as compliance does not stand in the way of attaining the goal that has been set for completion of the orders without delay.

But dear Mr. Roosevelt, what have you to say about the refusal of many of the manufacturers to give jobs to Negroes? In the law creating the national defense program, provision was made by Crongress that Negroes should not be discriminated against. And, yet, just that has and is being done daily and you don't seem inclined to do anything about it. Is not one part of the law just as important as the other?

Discussing the discriminatory practice against Negroes by certain establishments in Des Moines some years ago, our good friend, Harvey Ingham, editor of the Des Moines Register said after 1940 it is important that a man eats; then it becomes important where he eats."

No finer truth was ever stated. After all President Roosevelt, the Negro knows, first, that it is important that he gets a job. It is secondary as to the number of hours he works, the wage he gets, etc. For if he has no work not only will he be unable to eat but also to buy clothes, property or to educate his children.

And it seems to the Bystander that the president is not playing fair when these matters are being called to his attention daily and still refuses to do anything about them. Frankly, here is an opportunity to show just how much justice he wants the Negro to receive.

FIGHTS RACIAL BARS IN MACHINISTS' UNION

Pittsburgh Courier

SEP 28 19

NEW YORK, Sept. 26. (ANP)—The National Urban League last week entered the fight to secure the admittance of skilled Negro mechanics to membership in the International Association of Machinists (A. F. of L.), bringing to bear the influence of all of its 45 affiliates throughout the country. The league gave full support to delegates sponsoring a constitutional revision for this purpose before the resolutions committee of the organization at its quadrennial convention in Cleveland. A favorable vote was expeeted from the general membership of the unoin if the committee could be prevailed upon to report the measure favorably.

SEP 28 1940

WPA Order Putting Negro Women To Work With Shovels Or Starve Assailed As Slavery

New York Age

Federal government endangars the working and living standards of all workers and have called for united action of our people with organized labor to combat discrimination on WPA.

CHARLOTTE, N. C. (CNA)—The Charlotte Labor League, affiliate of Labor's Non-Partisan League, this week protested the ruling of the WPA that Negro women must work out-of-doors with shovels and wheelbarrows or starve.

OCT 19 1940

Negro women have been re-assigned to hard outside labor at $11.10 a week and told if they don't like it they could quit. Oscar Dewease, president of the Charlotte Labor League, issued the following statement:

"Common labor for Negro women, light work for white women, has no place in 1940. Such conditions are like slavery days. Organized labor must fight such violations of Negro rights. Women should not be forced to do the work of strong men. We demand decent conditions on WPA for all workers regardless of color, creed or political belief.

"This shameful condition is a disgrace to Charlotte. This is no New Deal. It is the same old crooked Jim-crow deal for the Negro people. There can be no national defense until a decent standard of living is provided for Negro and white Americans alike.

Leaders of the CIO hosiery and textile locals here have pointed out that the Nazilike treatment of Negro women in Charlotte by the

JOBS AND DISCRIMINATION

OCT 11 1940

Jobs, where Negro Americans are concerned, are daily becoming a more grievous problem. The refusal of a group of airplane builders using government funds to hire black men because they "were only hiring caucasians" drives the problem home with compelling force. We have got to think seriously about it.

No observing man or woman can travel in our country today from coast to coast without being stunned by the conditions of Negroes. In every city of any size the picture is the same—jobless men and youth hold down the corners of the Jim-crow sections of our cities. Daily their number increases. They overcrowd into poolrooms and gambling joints.

Globe and

The Jim-crow sections are growing preceptibly more dilapidated and worn at the heel. Those who live below the line that separates black Americans from white Americans are becoming more despondent and more demoralized. The weight of joblessness, of unsatisfied hunger of unattended sickness, of unhealthy social activities, vice, gambling prostitution is becoming too heavy. Life is decaying around us, under our very eyes. We must stop the decay.

Independent

The men and women who live in these hovels are brave men and women. They are talented men and women. Out of the midst of these black Americans have come the Paul Robesons and Marian Andersons the William Stills and Nathaniel Detts, the Langston Hughes and the Richard Wrights.

These folk bear scars. Our own imperialistic policies of segregation have left deep scars upon those so fortunate as to escape the full brunt of our carefully nurtured racial hatred.

Nashville Banner

But what of those who are left behind? We support those who escape and take the road to artistic expression. They have a measure of freedom and express it. But we refuse to support those who escape and take the road to political freedom and economic freedom and express the needs and demands of the hour in terms of political struggle

Only a most determined struggle against the conditions which sur-

round us will bring the millions out of the shadows. The shadows deepen. There is no denying that fact. On the West coast the action of the plane manufacturer pushes black Americans deeper into despair. Only struggle will change the picture. It is a national picture.

Jobs are getting scarcer for Negroes. The fault lies with those who control the jobs. The controllers may be the government or private industry. But those who control the jobs are robbing a whole section of our country, black America, of its morale. This is a conscious process. The plane builders have shown this statement to be true. We are consciously being driven under.

Jobs must be fought for, not singly, not individually, but together. These facts, these terrible conditions, must be blazened from on high. The congress halls must re-echo our protests. We, as a people, have got to get together and also to get together with other people who feel the deadening weight of hunger and unemployment. There is a way out.

—Chicago Defender.

Mobile, Ala., Press,
Forum Sun, July 12 '40

COAST JOB GROUP FIGHTS R.R. BIAS

OAKLAND, —A campaign against discriminatory reduction of unemployed Negro and Mexican families on the SRA and a fight likewise against a sudden new decision of local hiring agents of the Southern Pacific yards not to hire Negroes, was decided upon at a meeting here in Prescott school auditorium by the Citizens Committee for Jogs for Negroes.

The meeting heard and applauded a talk on the role and activities of the International Labor Defense, by Elaine Black, local ILD leader.

Information that in the reduction of SRA relief Negro relief clients would get the worst of it, raised such indignation at the meeting and in the West Oakland community generally. The meeting elected a committee to protest at the SRA office and voted to send pickets with a banner bearing the name of the Citizens' Committee to aid in picketing of the SRA office.

C.I.O. FIGHTS COLOR-BAR IN AIRCRAFT WORK

Defender

Douglas Co. Grants Group Audience To Discuss New Policies

6/15/40

LOS ANGELES — A partial victory is claimed by the Committee on Labor and Industry of the Eastside Chamber of Commerce, after a month of quiet ground work spent in shaping plans and contacting agencies interested in its program to break down practices of discrimination against Americans, either on account of color, race or creed, when word was received from officials of the Douglas Aircraft Company Inc., granting the committee an audience to discuss the matter.

The probe was ordered by the committee after it was learned that no Americans of color were employed in any capacity in the vast aviation industry. Inasmuch, as most members of the board of directors of the Eastside Chamber of Commerce, are Negro Americans, it is easy to see why such action was necessary to be initiated by this district body. The invitation to the confab, followed telegraphic messages between the committee members and officials of the Douglas company.

H. R. Garris, personnel manager of the Douglas plant, largest in the West, informed R. G. LaMar, field secretary of the chamber by telephone that the conference would be arranged soon. Friday, LeRoy R. Ingram, secretary-manager, announced that the chamber had received a letter confirming the conference and date. Leonard K. Swartz, head of the aviation division of the Los Angeles county chamber of commerce, in providing the district chamber with facts in the matter, proved a valuable aid during the probe.

Aircraft Company Turns Thumbs Down on Negro

SEP 17 1940

BAKERSFIELD, Calif. — Reward of William A. Dickinson, Jr., only Kern county Negro ever to complete a course in aircraft metal, last week was a curt notation in a call to work from the San Diego Consolidated Aircraft Company "No Negroes Accepted."

The discriminatory order accompanied an offer of employment to all students of the Bakersfield Junior College who have completed study in aircraft metal. Young Dickinson, son of William A. Dickinson, Sr., president of the Bakersfield branch of the NAACP, finished the subject with a straight "B" average.

Negotiations between the Bakersfield school and Consolidated have been in progress since Roy Anderson aviation instructor of the Junior college at Kern county airport, met with the company's personnel manager recently. Six students in aircraft metal were immediately employed.

Dickinson's instructors said that the Consolidated Aircraft discrimination order was the first that had ever been mentioned by any corporation. Reaction to the stinging order in Bakersfield Junior College has been universally one of shock, according to statements from the Imperial valley city.

Will Enter College

The Dickinson family is moving to Los Angeles this week, where William's enrollment in college has already been arranged.

Leaders here labelled the Consolidated Aircraft action "outrageous" and "reactionary." It is believed that protests will be sent to Washington and to Sacramento. Establishment of an admitted discrimination program in aircraft industries was held as "a tremendous threat to the normal employment of Negro youth."

To date, discrimination in aircraft fields has been primarily an unwritten policy. Only schools of instruction have admittedly practiced discrimination to a large extent, where it is claimed white students will not work with Negroes.

Fight Jim Crowism in Aircraft Industry; One Negro Hired Out of 60,000

Negro Congress in Calif. Launches Drive for Jobs

(Special to the Daily Worker)

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 23. — "A Negro has one chance in 60,000 of getting a job in an aircraft factory.

"Racial discrimination in this and other key industries in Los Angeles county has forced from 50 to 65 per cent of the Negro population here to depend on some form of relief."

These facts were revealed today by the National Negro Congress, Los Angeles Council.

At the some time, the NNC, through its executive secretary, Robert S. Robinson, released an exchange of corespondence between the Congress and leading aircraft corporations fully substantiating its charges.

Two huge corporations, depending largely on "national defense" government contracts for their rapidly expanding business, refused to explain their discrimination against the Negro race. Three others hedged on the question and another stated flatly that it would only hire "Caucasians."

Having persuaded the county board of supervisors to memorialize Congress against continuing to pour government funds into these companies, the NNC today appealed to labor and to all persons opposed to "un-American practice of racial discrimination" to send their protests to Congress and California's two Senators.

In letters addressed to Northrop, Vultee, Lockheed, North American Douglas aircraft corporations and to Douglas' El Segundo division, the National Negro Congress stated:

"It has been called to our attention that there are no Negroes at present employed by your company in the construction of aircraft to be used in our country's program of defense.

"We are aware that you have more than doubled your personnel during the past eight months to meet the demands of millions of dollars in orders placed by the United States Government. We are loyal citizens and supporters of this country's financial burdens; we have contributed our share to our country's economic development; therefore we feel justified in expecting equal opportunites in employment—especially where that employment is made available through our government. There are many Negro residents in this community who meet every requirement to hold skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled jobs in the aircraft industry. May we, therefore urge you to avail yourselves immediately of their services."

Vultee Aircraft, Inc., in a letter signed by W. Gerard Tuttle, manager of industrial relations, replied:

"This will acknowledge your letter of July 25, calling our attention to the fact that there are many Negro residents available for employment in this industry. I regret to say that it is not the policy of this company to employ people other than of the Caucasian race, consequently, we are not in a position to offer your people employment at this time."

Job Seekers Caught In Vicious Circle

Courier Pittsburgh Pa.

Colored Youths Can't Get Vocational Training Unless They Know They Can Get Jobs, While Employers Won't Hire Negroes Unless They Are Trained.

DEC 14 1940

NEW YORK, Dec. 12—Something of the manner in which billion-dollar industrial plants, particularly aircraft manufacturers, on the west coast have succeeded with the aid of local boards of education in keeping Negro job applicants out of defense industry, was revealed here by Walter White, executive secretary for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Mr. White returned this week from a month's speaking tour in connection with the Association's campaign to break down discrimination against the Negro in the national defense program, including the army and navy. He addressed 62 meetings, twenty of them sponsored by NAACP branches in 16 cities from Boston to San Francisco.

"I found at San Diego, Calif., for example," he said, "that the school board has issued an order barring Negro children from taking vocational courses unless they can produce letters from employers like the Consolidated Aircraft Corporation insuring them jobs. And yet, a Mr. Gott, manager of this huge aircraft corporation which is making planes for the National Defense program, told members of a delegation from our San Diego branch that he was unable to employ Negroes because they were untrained.

"Thoughtful white and colored people on the coast are now seeing the vicious circle—Negroes cannot get jobs because they are not trained and they cannot get training because no jobs are guaranteed them.

Only Six Negroes Among 60,000 in West Coast Plane Factories

Daily Worker New York N.Y.

DEC 24 1940

(Special to the Daily Worker)

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 23.—Jim-Crow policies in the "aircraft and national defense industries" were roundly condemned here today by the Vultee aircraft unit, Local 683, CIO United Auto Workers.

The union adopted a resolution vowing to "do all in its power to break the anti-labor, racial discrimination in the aircraft and national defense industries."

And at the same time, it protested the fact that there are no more than half a dozen Negroes now working in all of the Southern California aircraft plants employing more than 60,000 workers today.

Adoption of the resolution was a significant step forward, driving home another of the tenets of progressive trade unionism which the local learned on the Vultee picket line in their recent strike that established 62½ cents an hour as a minimum wage for the first time in aircraft.

It is significant because at the local's "victory" dance following the Vultee strike, several Negro union brothers and their guests were asked to leave the hall.

A special meeting of the local was called. There the Vultee men, most of them new to trade unionism, learned the true meaning of Jim-Crow, that it is one of the employers' weapons to keep workers split.

The Vultee picket line veterans got the point quickly. They hadn't allowed red-baiting by the bosses' and the Federal government to break their strike. They saw that Jim-Crowism was a similar phony trick.

TEXT OF RESOLUTION

The resolution they adopted, which apologized for the exclusion of the Negro brothers, read:

"WHEREAS, at a public dance given by the Vultee unit of Local 683 two Negro union brothers and their guests were asked to leave, and

"WHEREAS, this action is in direct contradiction to the national CIO policy of no discrimination because of race, color, creed, nationality or political affiliation, and

"WHEREAS, the success of our drive to organize the aircraft industry depends upon the broadest possible public support, and

"WHEREAS, the Negro people, who helped on our picket line with donations of food and money in our recent successful strike, are part of that public, and

"WHEREAS, we recognize that discrimination of any kind is the weapon used by the employer and his organizations to split and divide us in our struggles for a higher standard of life; therefore, be it

"RESOLVED, that we apologize to the Negro people for this action, and that we give our complete assurance that this action will not be repeated, and be it further

"RESOLVED, that this Local 683 of the United Auto Workers, CIO, do all in its power to break down the anti-labor, racial discrimination policy in the aircraft and national defense industries, recognizing that our national defense must rest on the maintenance of our democratic principles, foremost among which is the right of every citizen to an opportunity to earn his livelihood without discrimination."

LABOR- 1940
DISCRIMINATION

D.C.

Must Be Lawyer To Distribute Pencils

WASHINGTON—(ANP)—To be a keeper and distributor of supplies in a certain government building, a man must—if he is colored—be first, an accountant, and second a lawyer, according to the story reaching the ANP by a man who, with 17 years of service, applied for a position recently vacated by a colored man who for years had been supply clerk.

The applicant, told that his health was against him when he first applied for the position, submitted a certified statement showing that he had had fewer days absence because of illness in his 17 years service than any other person in the building.

He was then told he should know accountancy—and when he proved he did know accountancy and had worked at it as a profession, installing a bookkeeping system now in use at a well known colored school, that was not enough.

"Well, I tell you," said the appointment man, "do you know anything about law?"

"I had a year of law, sir, in my regular business course at college."

"That will hardly do, we need a lawyer on this job," was the reply.

How much law is required of a man to issue pencils, paper and supplies of similar nature puzzled the applicant no end, then it finally dawned on him that what was behind the whole thing was the placing of a white man in the job —which pays $2,100 per year.

Census Worker Loses D. C. Color Bar Case

WASHINGTON

Acting as mediator in the first Commerce Department, employee grievance case to be submitted to outside arbitration, Friday T. Arnold Hill rendered a decision against Frank Stewart, Census Bureau employee, who charged that he had been denied promotion because of racial discrimination.

Hill, former Urman League director of industrial relations, declared that while irregular, and in some cases discriminatory, practices were sustained. Stewart has failed to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that he had been denied promotion because of his color.

Hill was called in as arbitrator by mutual agreement between department officials and Local No. 23 of the CIO United Federal Workers of America, of which Stewart is a member, after the case had been appealed to the complainant's division chief, to commerce personnel officials, and to Secretary Harry Hopkins.

Charge Hard to Prove

Pointing out that "it is difficult to establish a charge of racial prejudice when the defendant answers with a plausible or seemingly plausible reason of administrative economy," Hill declared that "the evidence was sufficient to cause Stewart to suspect that race prejudice was the deciding factor."

Although disappointed in the verdict, officers of the local hailed the procedure as a step forward in personnel relations, establishing the right of the employee to obtain an impartial hearing of grievances, which cannot be settled within the department.

Negroes Shut Out on New DeLuxe Train

WASHINGTON. — (ANP) — With the inauguration two weeks ago of the new "Down East" train over the Pennsylvania-New Haven, known as the "East Wind," colored employes of the dining car service find themselves once again shut out since whites only are used on the grille car attached to this new train.

Using white cooks and waitresses on this train is no innovation since the same practice is followed through the New England states where the New Haven uses its grille cars. But the fact that the "East Wind" replaces the "Colonial Express" which for 23 years, according to Rienzi B. Lenus, has given employment to colored cooks and waiters, makes it more difficult for Negroes in the railroad service.

It is reported that colored local A. F. of L. officials in New York and in Boston fought bitterly against retention of the white employes on the grille car, the case going to the national adjustment board.

CONFIDENTIAL PLAN FOR RACE BAN LEAKS OUT

Defender

Jobs Secured Through Unemployment Center For White Only

8-3-40

WASHINGTON. — Because of the establishment of Jim-crow practice in the unemployment center by the Civil Service commission, Robert McAlpin was summarily dismissed last week from his $2,300 a year job as director. He had held the position for five years.

In an urgent order for 300 workers at once, the Civil Service commission asked the unemployment center to furnish these people on the basis of educational qualifications plus some office practice experience. No specification according to the commission, was made that they should be white workers. But when the order was issued at the center, only white workers were asked for.

However, when the commission was asked about the order, it denied any such part in the setup and said they had asked only for workers.

Incensed that this "confidential" order should leak out, a Mr. Jones, white director of the entire setup, immediately demanded Mr. McAlpin's job—basing his claim on the grounds that McAlpin had a low civil service rating and his appointment should not have been made.

Negroes are forced to register en masse in one spot while white professional workers are not compelled to mingle with the white laboring and semi-skilled classes.

McAlpin has made more placements, it is alleged, than has been done in the other sections and has maintained a high standard of placement work in his division at all times.

Only recently, a notice appeared in the white papers stating that there were plenty of jobs for workers through the office of the unemployment center, but the jobs were for white workers only.

JOBS SCARCE AT LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

Call 7-26-40

Negroes Fare No Better Under Administration of Dr. MacLeish

Kansas City, Mo.

WASHINGTON.—(ANP) —Rumors from the Library of Congress, where much was expected of the liberal Dr. MacLeish when he took over the administrative position as Librarian of Congress, have it that things are a little bit worse than they were before the reorganization date of July 1, when great changes were to occur.

Two Negroes remain at the top of the heap, one being Armstrong Claytor in the Orentalia division where as an expert on Chinese he is invaluable to the institution and to the country at large, and the other being the stenographic position held by a colored man, which job he has held for 13 years.

Things have gone so far as the barring of colored girls from taking the exams for stenographer—the ruse used being that no tests were being given, although it is reported that white girls are constantly being given tests to prove their ability.

Some hope had previously been held that appointments to higher jobs would be given Negroes in the new regime, but to date, nothing of the sort has happened and Negroes are holding down the same jobs in the same manner as before.

Qualified Negroes are relegated to positions of a sub-menial capacity, messengers, etc, with a few who held jobs of higher rating holding on to them. There have been few new appointments among Negroes to positions in the library and those who do hold positions are qualified for better jobs. And most of the young men in the library hold degrees from various schools in the country and out-rank their white co-workers as far as education as it was in the Biblical days. tional ability and background are for the "camel to pass through the needle's eye."

concerned.

The fear existing among Negroes is that the library will deteriorate

No Negroes In The FBI Headquarters

OCT 12 1940

The Black Dispatch

WASHINGTON.—(ANP)— One of the most remarkable things about the FBI here in this city is the magnificent fingerprint department, where over 13,000,000 finger prints are on file. This department takes up the majority of the top floor of the buildings and employs hundreds of men and women, with finger print experts wodking on a 24-hour shift.

Oklahoma City

But there is not a colored face in the department handling this work and not anywhere within the building unless the colored elevator girls are taken into consideration. There may be other colored employees in Mr. Hoover's interesting establishment, but they were not visible when your correspondent made a tour of the building only last week.

Considerable agitation was afoot to have colored men employed in the FBI as agents some time back when the announcement was made that there were to be several hundred more employed. But the department of justice ignored this and as yet no colored faces appear there.

Found No Negroes In FBI Headquarters

Courier Pittsburgh

OCT 12 1940

WASHINGTON, Oct. 10—(ANP)—One of the most remarkable things about the FBI here in this city is the magnificent fingerprint department, where over 13,000,000 fingerprints are on file. This department takes up the majority of the top floor of the building and employs hundreds of men and women, with fingerprint experts working on a 24-hour shift.

But there is not a colored face in the department handling this work and not anywhere within the building unless the colored elevator girls are taken into consideration. There may be other colored employes in Mr. Hoover's interesting establishment, but they were not visible when your correspondent made a tour of the building only last week.

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Hotel Ousts Help; Hires Foreigners

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

10-12-40

WASHINGTON

How the influence of Axis powers penetrated the Washington employment situation was disclosed this week when Leo Butler, white, manager of Hotel 2400 in the fashionable white neighborhood of Sixteenth Street, Northwest, discharged the American-born help without a day's notice and replaced them with Germans and Italians.

According to information given the AFRO by Mrs. L. B. Walker of 149 W Street, Northwest, one of the discharged employees, Tuesday, the steward, Leo McDonald, white, who has a wife and three children, was let out without notice and replaced at a higher salary by an Italian chef and other kitchen help.

Head Waiter Dropped

The head waiter, John Stewart, colored, was replaced by a German. According to Mrs. Walker, Mr. Stewart was rated as one of the best head waiters in the country.

Mrs. Walker said that she was called into the manager's office while leaving the building and was told that her services would no longer be needed. She was baker and pastry cook and since her dismissal the job has been discontinued and the pastry is ordered from a foreign-owned concern.

"I would not feel so badly about the situation," said Mrs. Walker, "if the help had been replaced by Americans, but to give aliens these jobs, when we are in need of them so much, is more than I can understand, especially with Mr. Butler's being an officer in the navy and looking to be called to the defense of our country any day."

Italian Replaces Cook

D. Dickson, also colored, second cook, was also replaced by an Italian with a higher salary.

In an interview with the AFRO, Mr. Butler, manager of the hotel, said: "If I could have found American help capable of doing the jobs, I would have been pleased to have filled the vacancies with them; but I tried and could not find any."

He was asked why in a country of 150,000,000 people, he could not find any that could do the jobs that he wanted.

He said he could not and that is why he had to get Germans and Italians.

Gave Notice, Also Pay

When asked why he discharged his help without notice, he said that he paid them two weeks' salary in advance but the kitchen had to be reorganized and at once, as he was losing all his dining room business because the food was terrible and the raw material wasn't handled properly.

10-12-40

"I replaced the head waiter with a German that I have known for some time," he said, "and for no other reason at all."

Dietitians Barred From $1620 Jobs Because of Race

OCT 19 1940

The Army Medical Center at the Walter Reed General Hospital is seeking dietitians with Civil Service status for positions paying $1,620 annually and mantenance, but no colored need apply.

This racial prohibition was made manifest last week when two graduates of the Howard University economics department, who had been called in for personal interviews, were termed ineligible because there is no "maintenance" or quarters for that class of employees.

Washington D.C.

Those called ineligible on this account were: Mrs. Margot Dyson, head dietitian of the Mercy Hospital in Philadelphia and daughter of John R. Pinkett, realtor, and Miss Thelma Brown, employee of the Bureau of Census.

Baltimore

No Quarters Planned

In a telephonic conversation with a representative of the Tribune on Tuesday, Captain T. G. Hester, of the Medical Center, confirmed the fact that there are no provision for maintenance of colored employees now and that so far as he knows there is no program contemplated to provide housing facilities for them.

Mrs. Dyson and Miss Brown received notification about the same time to appear for personal interviews regard the dietitions' positions. The former left her work in Philadelphia and came here on last Wednesday for that purpose.

In the meantime, Miss Brown had gone to Walter Reed and conferred with a Mrs. Burns and a Mr. Considine and informed of her "ineligibility." Upon her arrival, Mrs. Dyson, a life-long friend of Miss Brown, was informed by the latter of the lack of status of colored dietitians in the Army Medical Center set-up.

Report Suggested

Mrs. Dyson called the Center and the fact that colored dietitians are not being considered because there are no quarters for them was related to her. She left on the week-end for her work in Philadelphia.

Wash.

Both women, however, were advised to notify Civil Service authorities that they had reported as per request also of the situation at the hospital so that they would not lose their rating.

D.C.

Miss Brown and Mrs. Dyson served a year's internship at Freedmen's Hospital after graduation from Howard University. Prior to her present position which she has held for a year and three months, Mrs. Dyson, a member of the American Dietetic Association, served a year in Hubbard Hospital, which is connected with the Meharry Medical School in Nashville, Tenn.

LABOR- 1940
DISCRIMINATION

FLORIDA

Tampa Freeze Out Of Negro Shipyard Workers Cited As Green Denies Exploitation

Courier 3-16-40 Pittsburgh, Pa.

NEW YORK CITY, Mar. 14—William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, was condemned last week by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, for denying, in a recent speech in Atlanta, Ga., that "exploitation and racketeering" existed within the top ranks of the A. F. of L.. while fully aware that less than 300 miles away in Tampa, Fla., the most vicious exploitation of and discrimination against Negro shipyard workers is being practiced by officials of A. F. of L. unions."

The N.A.A.C.P.'s attitude was expressed in a letter sent to Green March 5, in another effort to get the labor leader to investigate conditions in the Tampa, Fla., shipyards, where 500 Negro workers have been frozen out of their jobs by lily-white A. F. of L. unions. For more than a year the association has sought to get action from the labor leader through an investigation of the discrimination against these men.

Green spoke at the two-day Southern organization conference of the A. F. of L., held in Atlanta, Ga., March 3. It was here that he denounced those who charged the A. F. of L. with permitting exploitation to thrive within the organization.

Predicting that the A. F. of L. drive to organize the South will fail unless the leadership learns that "no labor is free until all labor is free," the letter added:

"This utterly vicious situation is conclusive proof of the validity of the charges made by Negro labor delegates of discrimination by certain A. F. of L. unions."

PLAN TO WORK OUT PRACTICAL PROGRAM TO ELIMINATE ALL FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION

Union Takes Slap at Injustices Against Negro Workers in Electrical, Radio and Machine Industry

NOV 1 1940

NEW YORK.—In one of the most far-reaching actions taken by any labor union in the country, the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America, a C.I.O. affiliate, has pledged itself the task of working out "a practical program in the direction of eliminating discrimination against Negro workers in our industry, whether this discrimination be covert or in the open."

Follows Resolution

The action which followed passage of a resolution at the union's sixth convention held in Cleveland, Ohio, last September, which said in part: "It has always been the policy of our union and the C.I.O. particularly, to fight against discrimination against Negro people or any other race, because we know that the white workers cannot advance if our brothers are held back, no matter what their race or color may be."

The program of action outlined in the resolution, which was made public by the N.A.A.C.P., following receipt of a letter from Julius Emspak, general secretary-treasurer of the union, includes the following points:

Ask More Workers

"Working actively towards the end so that more Negro workers are hired in industries where the U. E. has contracts; making a survey of Negro U. E. members, to find out as to their position in the industry, and taking steps to improve them; carrying on an educational campaign in cooperation and with the aid of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the National Negro congress and other Negro organizations whose aid we can succeed in getting, and who are recognized as Negro organizations, the aim of this educational work to be a greater understanding of the Negro question, and an increased fraternal spirit between all of our members, no matter what race, creed or color they may be."

Eliminate Photo from Civil Service

NOV 29 1940

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Nov 25—The greatest racial advance ever made in the history of the United States federal Civil Service was accomplished Tuesday November 19, 1940, when the Civil Service Commission in a letter to Edgar G. Brown, president of the United Government Employes, whose organization took the leadership in the long four year fight, announced the immediate setting up of machinery by the Commission as a result of President Roosevelt's Executive order eliminating from this time on the 22 year old requirement of the pictures of all applicants taking federal Civil Service examinations.

It was the result of the fight of the U.G.E. before Congress and two recent conferences by Edgar G. Brown, one with President Roosevelt before the election on the Civil Service matter in the heat of the campaign at Columbus, Ohio and subsequently at the White House. The U. S. Civil Service Commission by Act of Congress administers the rules and regulations of federal employment as set forth by the President.

A STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION

NOV 30 1940

THE AGE EDITOR is in receipt of a communication from Hon. James S. Mead junior Senator from New York, in which he states that:

"Photographs have been required by the U. S. Civil Service Commission solely for the purpose of preventing impersonation and fraud in examinations, and the Commission is convinced that such impersonations and frauds can best be detected by the use of finger prints . . . For the reason stated the Commission will take steps immediately to abolish the use of photographs in connection with civil service examinations."

While we do not agree that "photographs have been required by the Commission solely for the purpose of preventing impersonation and fraud" we do feel that the substitution of the fingerprint system will do much to counteract the tendency toward discrimination in the federal civil service. In far too many cases Negroes have been eliminated from examinations after submitting their photographs. So we can hope that the new ruling by the Civil Service Commissioners may serve to improve the chances of Negro applicants in the federal civil service.

BAN AGAINST PHOTOS IN CIVIL SERVICE BILL KILLED BY SENATE

NOV 30 1940

WASHINGTON, D. C., Nov. 27—With the amendment abolishing the use of photographs as a means of identification eliminated from the Ramspeck bill extending the classified civil service, both the Senate and House completed action on the measure last Tuesday and sent it to the President for his approval.

The Senate receded from the photograph amendment after the Civil Service Commission advised that this matter could be handled by executive order and recommended against including it in the bill.

Negro Job-Seekers Caught In Vicious Circle Operated By Aircraft Companies, Says N.A.A.C.P. Secretary

DEC 1 2 1940

New York—Something of the manner in which billion-dollar industrial plants, particularly aircraft manufacturers, on the west coast have succeeded with the aid of local boards of education in keeping Negro job applicants out of defense industry, was revealed here today by Walter White, executive secretary for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Mr. White returned this week from a month's speaking tour in connection with the Association's campaign to break down discrimination against the Negro in the national defense program, including the army and navy. He addressed 62 meetings, twenty of them sponsored by N.A.A.C.P. branches in sixteen cities from Boston to San Francisco.

Post Office Raw Deal

NOV 30 1940

One section of this country, the South, will be glad if ever the G.O.P. returns to power.

Take Memphis, for example, where Bob Church is a political boss of some parts. With a Republican President in the White House, Church named the postmaster, a white man, with the understanding that colored people were to have their share of postal employees.

Seven and a half years ago the Democrats came in and since then all new appointees have been white.

The same is true all over the South—New Orleans, Newport News and Charlotte.

No matter how high on the Civil Service list colored applicants stand, the plums are denied them. And, since F. D. R. won a third term, the raw deal will go on unless the President's new rule forbidding civil service bias really means something. We are willing to suspend judgment while we watch how it operates.

Loss of Railroad Jobs Imminent

DEC 14 1940

WHILE the United States is studying ways and means of preventing Hitler and Mussolini from crushing Great Britain and exposing this country to the onrush of these dictators it would be well for our responsible statesmen and leaders in business and industry to ponder a problem which for the past quarter century has been sapping the economic life blood of one-tenth of America's population. Our external enemies are hardly less dangerous than many of our internal enemies of national security and national unity.

Norfolk Va.

From the beginning of America's vast railroad industry, which is the most extensive in the world, the Negro has played a conspicuous part in its upbuilding, maintenance and operation. There has been a policy with American railroads to give jobs as locomotive firemen, hostlers, brakemen, flagmen and porters to Negroes, and despite their gradual elimination under pressure of Union labor there are possibly 2,000 Negroes in those jobs. The railroads have by common consent placed enough white men in firemen's jobs to supply the demand for enginemen under the apprentice training system.

In recent years there has been pressure upon railroad owners from the Brotherhood of Railway Firemen and Enginemen to eliminate colored firemen and hostlers altogether, through a gradual process of filling all vacancies with white men.

More recently, last March to be specific, the Union made a demand upon 20 railroads in the southeast to definitely displace Negro firemen and shop hostlers.

In its insidious move toward the displacement of Negroes in these railroad jobs the Union did not specify race or color. It adopted the subtle and insidious method of insisting that the railroads employ only "promotable" men as firemen and hostlers. It took advantage of the universally accepted fact that Negro firemen are not promoted to enginemen and it is simple enough to eliminate the colored man by merely insisting upon a policy which applies in its employment phases to "promotable" men. If the Union's present demand is met by the railroads it will result in a loss of approximately 2,000 jobs by Negro railway employees. As these jobs pay from $150 to $200 per month, the extent of this economic loss to colored people is alarming.

If the Brotherhood of Railway Firemen and Enginemen succeed in their purpose of preventing the railroads from employing any more colored firemen and hostlers, other unions which control other brackets of railway empolyment now filled by colored men will follow suit, with a consequent additional economic loss to the race.

Having in mind the progressive displacement by many of the railroads of locomotives propelled by steam power and the substitution of the streamlined diesel motored locomotives, the Union has made a further demand that colored men be barred from employment of "other than steam-powered engines."

The economic welfare of the South, as well as the Negro requires that this unreasonable demand of the Brotherhood of Railway Firemen and Enginemen be refused by the 20 railroads in the southeast, upon which the demand has been made. If this new raid upon the job security of colored Americans is to be permitted, responsible leaders in government and business, industry and education, must join hands in preventing it. While ruthless dictators, like Hitler, Mussolini and Stalin are making war upon small nations, as well as upon the British Empire, and thus threatening the very existence of democracy and human justice in the world, it is inconceivable that America will permit a system of economic dictatorship within its own confines to make economic warfare upon 13,000,000 of America's most loyal citizens. This economically repressed group of Americans are being called upon to bear their share in the defense of the American way of life, which presupposes continued freedom and justice in the enjoyment of established civilized institutions which afford men and their families opportunity for a reasonable standard of living.

DEC 14 1940

The United States has no greater external enemies than those who are continuously applying a vise of economic pressure upon 13,000,000 Negro Americans.

Time Has Come For Showdown On Employment Of Negro Labor

DEC 19 1940

COLORED CITIZENS are denied an equal opportunity to work. That is a fact. No sensible person will even attempt to deny it.

Who is responsible for this un-American situation, by which citizens are forced to accept relief or starve?

There are those who place the blame squarely on the shoulders of labor unions. Is organized labor to blame?

Others proclaim to the world that employers of labor—big industrialists and business men must bear the burden of this inhuman practice. Are the owners of business to blame?

Philadelphia Tribune

There are certain well known facts which tend to prove that both business men and organized labor are responsible.

We are informed, unofficially, by the State Employment Bureau that employers request that only white workers be sent in answer to their requests for employees.

We are told by colored applicants for work that when they apply for jobs they are told by the personnel office that they can not use colored workers. The chief excuse seems to be that they can not mix white and colored employees. They have no separate washrooms and toilets for colored workers; therefore, they can not give them jobs.

Philadelphia Pa.

It is known to most informed people that certain labor unions bar colored workers, either by written law or by custom.

It is also known that colored workers are denied training in certain occupations. Those who control apprenticeships refuse to permit colored Americans to enter certain restricted types of skilled employment.

Large industrialists are disliked by colored Americans because they think that business men deny them an opportunity to work.

If business owners are willing to employ competent colored workers, they should in self interest make this fact known. Public utilities and big business corporations need the goodwill of the public. By remaining quiet, leaders of business have a black eye so far as colored citizens are concerned.

It is their duty to speak out, if they are not responsible.

Labor organizations may not hope to have the esteem of the general public if it is their policy to deliberately starve a tenth of the American population while they stuff their own pockets with higher wages.

We do not know how it can be done, but while the National Labor Relations Board is playing wet nurse to labor unions, it should dig into the discriminations practiced against a large segment of American citizens.

And as for colored citizens, it is their job to fight with everything they have to get work. Believe it or not, the time has come for colored Americans to demand work or else endure the pangs of hunger with shrunken bellies.

Court Strikes At Negro Rail Labor

WASHINGTON.—(ANP) Pres. Roosevelt's "streamlined" supreme court struck a vital blow against Negro railroad labor here Monday when it ruled that labor unions had a right to the limitations of the rights of Negro members.

The ruling was made in an employees' representation dispute between the American Federation of Labor's Brotherhood of Railway Carmen and the Independent National Federation of Railway Workers.

In June, 1937, a contest developed between the two unions when each sought to represent coach cleaners for the purpose of collective bargaining. The brotherhood was certified as the bargaining agent after an election was held by the National Mediation Board.

In challenging the board's ruling, the National Federation of Railway Workers cited the fifth and 14th Amendments of the constitution.

In its ruling, the court held that since the fifth amendment relates solely to state action, and the 14th to federal action, the brotherhood could limit the rights of new members without offending their guarantees under the constitution.

Lewis Denounces Racial Discrimination in Unions

Lauds Contributions of Negro Workers; Calls For Unity

(Special to the Sunday Worker)

PITTSBURGH, Pa., Dec. 10. — John L. Lewis, CIO leader, made a stinging attack upon discrimination against Negroes in the labor movement in an exclusive interview made public in the Feb. 10 issue of the Pittsburgh Courier, Negro weekly.

"No group of workers can succeed if it leaves its fellow workers behind. We have adopted this uncompromising attitude toward racial discrimination because we know that it is the only way to deal with the problem which concerns us all," Lewis said.

In the interview, which was given at the Golden Jubilee Convention of the United Mine Workers of America recently held in Columbus, Ohio, Lewis said:

"There is one thing I would suggest to Negroes and leaders in general and that is that they pay more attention to the social and economic questions rather than devote all their time and energy to politics alone. I believe that a change has taken place within the Negro group.

"The common folk of the race are beginning to awaken to a more complete understanding of the unjustifiable exploitation to which they have been subjected. It is now up to the leaders of the group to devote some attention to these pressing problems. It is only after this fundamental economic structure has been built that an effective political action can be organized.

"After all, a man, whether he is Negro or white must first of all earn a living. Bread comes before everything else. As I told the preachers yesterday, a man has to eat before he can be a Christian (editor's note: Mr. Lewis spoke before the Ohio Pastor's Convention, Jan. 30, which was also meeting in Columbus). The Negro is a religious group and so are the miners, but before a man can properly worship God he must eat.

"Modern Germany demonstrates today that bread comes before culture: it comes before liberty; it comes before Christianity and the church. The need for bread has swept aside all other considerations. Therefore, for the Negro group as well as all other laboring people, the first step is the organizing into groups to insure their enconomic well-being.

"The United Mine Workers of America is the only organization that attempts to do the right thing by the Negro. The Negro is and always has been a very important part of our organization. Negroes have contributed to the strength of the organization through their work, their dues, and their assistance during strikes.

"We have full respect for the Negro delegates attending our conferences. When a Negro rises to speak to this convention we know that he will be standing for American principles of freedom and economy; that he will be for orderly procedure and that he is devoted to his union organization.

"All that I have said concerning the Negro in the United Mine Workers of America could similarly be said about Negroes in the general CIO movement. They have given us their support and have joined with their white fellow workers. Throughout the entire CIO movement we have enforced a rule of equality, democracy and a full participation of all members.

"I am sure that you will agree with me when I say that Negroes as a group have made far more progress since the formation of the CIO than at any time before. This has been because of the uncompromising stand which the CIO has taken against any form of racial prejudice or racial discrimination. This is not, in my opinion, a special privilege to be given to the Negro.

"It is rather that we believe in treating everyone in the same way because we all have the same problems. No group of workers can succeed if it leave its fellow workers behind. We have adopted this uncompromising attitude toward racial discrimination because we know that it is the only way to deal with the problem which concerns us all.

A. PHILLIP RANDOLPH, outstanding Negro labor leader and president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters.

"I am looking forward in the years to come to the extensive growth of unionism in this country and believe that it will spread throughout the entire working group. I am convinced that the Negro will be a part of this great movement and will participate equally in the developing and the strengthening of our democratic institution. This can best be done through the organized labor movement."

NEGRO STEEL WORKER AND BUILDER OF AMERICA

Constitutional Rights Not Violated When Union Limits Colored Members Court Says

WASHINGTON, D. C.—A labor union may limit the rights of its colored members without trespassing upon their constitutional rights the Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia ruled recently in a decision which vitally affects the status of Negroes in organized labor throughout the country.

The decision was handed down by the Court of Appeals in upholding the certification by the National Mediation Board of the Brotherhood of Railway Carmen, an affiliate of the American Federation of Labor, as the representative of the coach cleaners of the Texas Pacific Railway Company for purposes of collective bargaining.

The case grew out of a dispute tween the National Federation of Railway Workers, an association of colored railway employees, and the Brotherhood. The National Mediation Board ordered an election, and on December 17, 1937, certified the Brotherhood as the proper representative of the coach cleaners craft.

After petitions for a new election were denied, the Federation filed suit against the Board on March 29, 1938, to have the certification declared void and to enjoin the Board from putting it into effect. The Brotherhood was permitted to intervene in the suit.

APPEAL DISMISSAL

The District Court dismissed the complaint. From that decision the Federation appealed.

One of the contentions of the Federation was that certain rules of the Brotherhood so proscribed the role colored men may play in that organization that representation by it of the coach cleaners will deprive members of the Federation of the equal protection of the laws and of property without due process of law in violation of the Fourteenth Amendment.

The provision in the constitution of the Brotherhood, to which the Federation took exceptions, provides:

"On railroads where the employment of colored persons has become a permanent institution, they shall be admitted to membership in separate lodges. Where these separate lodges of Negroes are organized they shall be under th urisdiction of and represented by the delegates of the nearest white local in any meeting of the Joint Protective Board, Federation, or convention where delegates may be seated."

"Would such a limitation by the Brotherhood on the rights of its colored members operate here to deprive members of the Federation of any constitutional rights?" the appellate court asks. It then sets out to answer its own question.

in Petersburg January 6.

14TH NOT APPLICABLE

"The guarantees of the Fourteenth Amendment relate solely to action by a state government, clearly absent here. Hence, any constitutional rights pertinent to the instant case are those guaranteed by the Fifth Amendment. Decisive of this constitutional issue is the established proposition that the Fifth Amendment relates only to governmental action, federal in character, not to action by private persons.

"Thus the Brotherhood, a private association, acting on its own initiative and expressing its own will, may limit the rights of its colored members without thereby offending the guarantees of the Constitution."

The appellate court held that under the Railway Labor Act "employees are guaranteed the right to select a common bargaining representative and that representative may be a person of any race or color (or an association made up of persons of any race or color). The quality of opportunity thus guaranteed is the complete antithesis of discrimination.

"To hold that colored employees could be represented only by colored persons for bargaining purposes would be to introduce into the administration of the Act the very discrimination which the Federation seeks to avoid.

ELECTION RESULTS

"In the election at hand a craft of 36 coach cleaners, 70 of whom were colored, by a vote of 42 to 35 chose as their collective bargaining agent or representative the Brotherhood of Railway Carmen. It may be that certification of the Brotherhood will mean that white, rather than colored, men will represent the coach cleaners in negotations with the carrier. If so, that condition will obtain because a majority of the coach cleaners voted for it, and not by reason of any governmental action. Moreover, it can continue only so long as they desire it.

"It cannot be that the Constitution denies colored workmen the right to select a white representative or vice versa. The argument that the Brotherhood is not a proper representative for colored coach cleaners, therefore spent its force in the pre-election campaign, and, the result indicates, to no avail.

MAJORITY RULE

"In the last analysis, the Federation's contention reduces itself to the proposition that the members of every race in a craft of workmen have a constitutional right to representative by one of their own race, which neither the majority of the craft nor their own race may take from them.

"Acceptance of such a principle would certainly destroy the provision of the Act that a majority of any craft shall select the representative for the craft. The Federation really objects to the principle of majority rule as applied to the selection of the bargaining agency or representative. It is clear beyond doubt that constitutional objection to majority rule in the selection of an employee bargaining agency cannot prevail."

The opinion of the court affirming the judgment of the District Court dismissing the complaint was delivered by Associate Justice Fred M. Vinson.

SUPERVISORS BAR 200 RACE ENUMERATORS

Regional N. A. A. C. P. Conference Files Formal Complaint

MOBILE, May 3—A vigorous protest against what was characterized as extensive and subtle employment discrimination in the selection of census enumerators, was filed with the Census Bureau in Washington by the Southern Regional conference of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

In a letter to J. C. Capt, assistant to director of the bureau, J. L. LeFlore, chairman of the Southern N. A.A.C.P. said:

"It does not seem to us that a spirit of fairness and sincerity was manifested in the selection of census workers which would deny employment because of race.

"In a previous letter to your office under date of January 27, past, we expressed ourselves as believing that the very conditions of which we now complain would exist. However, your reply giving assurances that district supervisors had been advised along the lines outlined in our communication regarding colored employment was accepted in good faith.

"But it appears peculiarly paradoxical that some of the largest cities in the South do not have even one colored census enumerator. New Orleans, Baton Rouge, Montgomery, Dothan, Pensacola, Birmingham, Jackson (Mississipi), Jacksonville and Jackson (Tennessee) are among the numerous cities not having colored census workers, we have been advised."

In his reply Mr. Capt defended the right of the Census Bureau to allow district supervisors select enumerators and other workers, terming the policy as being democratic, while failing to condemn the employment discrimination evil.

Mr. LeFlore estimates that approximately 200 Negroes were barred from jobs to which they were rightfully entitled by district supervisors in the South.

He further stated that about $16,000 would have been added to the purchasing power of the Negro group for two weeks' work, if fairness had prevailed throughout the South in the selection of census workers.

3,000,000 Gyp

The Roosevelt administration has played us a snooty trick in gypping us of the 1500 jobs and the $3,000,000 payroll due us from officers, superintendents and foremen in 150 CCC camps.

John Jasper's story in last week's AFRO is as startling an expose of the use of Southern race prejudice in the administration of Federal projects as we have ever had.

Quite as astonishing as anything else is the Jasper evidence that two cabinet officers responsible for giving all the jobs in colored CCC camps to white officials are "Honest" Harold Ickes, Secretary of the Interior, and Henry Wallace, Secretary of Agriculture, now a candidate for Vice-President on the Democratic ticket.

Both of these gentlemen we thought to be our good friends, and it is difficult to believe that while Mr. Ickes was presenting Marian Anderson, the singer, to 75,000 at the Lincoln Memorial and Mr. Wallace was making an effective speech at Tuskegee on uplift of farmers they conspired with our enemies farther South to put the training of CCC boys in the hands of white foremen and white reserve officers only.

They did worse. They even provided the colored CCC boys with white doctors and white chaplains.

We have hundreds of reserve army officers available for CCC camps and we have thousands who can do the technical work required of camp foremen and superintendents. If we didn't have them we could in six years have trained them.

And when we come down to the 75 white doctors and the 18 white ministers serving colored CCC camps what is the FDR-Ickes-Wallace excuse except that the Federal Government approves indecent discrimination on account of color?

LABOR - 1940
DISCRIMINATION

GENERAL

Commission's Original Staff Enlarged By U. S. To Enforce New Ruling

Philadelphia Tribune
Philadelphia Pa.
NOV 28 1940

WASHINGTON (ANP) — Jubilation reigned among the proponents of the removal of discriminatory practices against Negroes in the civil service, when, on Wednesday, it was announced that the executive order, by President Roosevelt, had demanded changes in the rules which prohibit discrimination against Negroes.

This is the first time in the history of the civil service that such an order has been sent through, although there have been various orders preventing discrimination because of politics or religion.

It is this new ruling, there will be no more of the pushing around given Negro applicants, if the provisions of the order are carried out. Many cases of this kind of discrimination have been before the public in the past, and if there is a possibility to rule them out of this order, the provisions of the Ramspeck bill, which calls for the elimination of photographs from civil service applications, and the substitution of fingerprints, will have been accomplished to the satisfaction of the proponents of the bill.

Bans Communists

At the same time, the government is adding a large number of investigators to its present staff and the commission is tightening up on its rules.

In the same general order from the White House, there was a provision which precluded the employing of Communists and German-American Bund members from federal jobs.

The employment of sympathizers with foreign governments is frowned upon and from this time on, there will be a closer scrutiny of applicants than ever before.

At the same time, this order is indicative of the wish of the President, or his fear that Congress will adjourn without passing the Ramspeck bill, for if the present congress adjourns without acting on the bill, it will be dead until next year, when Congressman Ramspeck will have to start all over again in his effort to blanket into the Civil Service, the 200,000 persons his bill would effect.

Close Inspection

In addition to the close inspection of applicants' character, there will be a closer cooperation between the Army and Navy intelligence bureaus, and the FBI, where all fingerprints of applicants will be cleared through the files of the FBI. The commission will not certify any eligible for a federal job if there's a least suspicion that he or she is a Communist or Bund member—or even sympathetic toward such organizations.

Just what the reaction of governmental bureaucrats will be toward the President's order to the commission remains to be seen. Throughout the entire governmental organization, and in the past, the civil service commission has denied all responsibility for the failure of Negroes to receive appointments after they were certified to positions. The appointments are in the hands of the appointment clerks in the various bureaus, and it is this group which finally passes on the appointment of the worker.

The providing of "racial discrimination" will be one of the most difficult tasks an appointee will face, in the event an appointee is not given proper consideration when called for a job.

Negroes Await Results

This has been true in the WPA, where officials admit that proving racial discrimination is practically impossible. Hiding behind the old ruse of "personalty difficulties" it is impossible to commit drastic discrimination day after day. This term, arising out of the welter of new-fangled definitions in personnel management, has been a God-send to those who wish to eliminate persons they deem objectionable, and as "personality difficulty" covers a multitude of sins, there is no definite rebuttal to the argument.

Negroes throughout the country await the results of the Presidential order, some with fingers crossed, believing that this is to be just another paper benefit, which looks and sounds good, but is as unworkable as some of the fine-sounding phrases which have been worked into other New Deal projects.

—A Colored Judge—

South Offers White, Intelligent Labor As Bait For Industry; Urban League Protests

DEC 21 1940

The National Urban League this week protest against an advertisement which appeared recently in TIME Magazine in which "white, intelligent labor" was mentioned as one of the outstanding attractions of the Southern states to industries contemplating moving to that section.

The advertisement was sponsored by the United Gas Pipe Line Company. It invited new industries to locate in the Gulf Southern States—Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Florida and Alabama. Since its appearance in TIME, it has been published by several other nationally circulated magazines.

In a letter to R. H. Hargrove, vice president and general manager of the United Gas Pipe Line Company, Lester B. Granger, assistant executive secretary of the National Urban League, in charge of industrial relations, emphasized the League's contention that as new industries develop in a community, and as employment opportunities expand, Negroes should be included proportionately in those opportunities if only as a matter of protection and economy for the entire community.

"It is true that many industries in the South, as well as in the North, have heretofore excluded Negroes from employment," Mr. Granger wrote. "This is a policy the unwisdom of which has long since been recognized by advanced industrial leaders. A definite start in recent years has been made toward correcting these policies, and it is to the credit of the South that Southern industry has frequently taken the leadership along this line.

"I am sure that you recognize how your advertisement suggests a directly contrary policy. It proposes to industrial employers establishing themselves in the Gulf South that no consideration be given intelligent Negro labor, even though Negroes compose approximately 30 percent of the entire native labor in the Gulf section.

"Because of these facts, the National Urban League urges the officers and directors of the United Gas Pipe Line Company to alter its advertisement. We urge that employers be encouraged to consider Negro labor in the Gulf South as elsewhere, an essential part of industrial resources upon which our national economy must depend."

Mr. Granger at the same time urged both the Chamber of Commerce of the U. S. A. and the National Association of Manufacturers to take steps, through an official statement and other action by its individual members, to disclain any sympathy with such a policy as is implied in the United Gas Pipe Line Company's advertisement.

Stealing A Trade Is Justifiable

DEC 13 1940

A Negro attempted to register for work with one of the employment bureaus. The official in charge started to list him as a laborer. He objected, he wanted enrollment as a plumber, a skilled worker. "From what school do you come?" he was asked. He replied, "From no school, but ask me the questions, I can answer them."

This little interchange epitomizes the problem of the Negro worker, — he cannot get his skill recognized. Persons with jobs to give, like this employment official, start with the presumption that a Negro has no trade.

When the government announced its "refresher" training and appropriated money for the public school systems to give training which would bring back skill that workers once had, school officials in most places that have separate schools decided not to include Negroes. They reasoned that even if skill was restored they could not work at their trade. At the same time not having their skill attested, the poor Negro craftsman could not compete for jobs. They are tied hand and foot, if trades are to be gotten only in the orthodox ways. But Negroes do have trades.

In some Negro craftsmen, skill is a "gift." They come by it just as Blind Tom by his music. In others it is gotten from whites, like when an owner taught a slave to read. In the great majority skill comes from the intelligent use of the wits.

Kansas City, Mo.

Some years ago in Colorado, a difficult piece of pattern making and moulding came to a foundry. Neither the boss nor his employes could do it. A Negro employed there as general roustabout, observing their trouble, said he could do the job. He had been a moulder in Alabama. He made his word good, whereupon the proprietor with more justice than is usual, said to his employes that like it or not, from that time on this Negro was to work at his trade in that shop. There is the lesson for the United States, — pretty is as pretty does.

Photographs Banned

DEC 8 1940

THE banning of photographs for applicants preparing to take the Civil Service examinations is a great step toward ridding prejudice in government examinations and employment. It gives an applicant a chance to show his ability without being judged according to his color and race. It is easy to see how a Negro seeking to get a position may easily be discriminated against if one of the members who decides who is to be accepted or rejected is biased on the question of race and color. A colored person may not even have a chance to compete. He is stopped before he gets a chance to show what he can do.

Chicago Bee

It may be said, however, that the banning of the photograph does not, of itself, eradicate all prejudice for government positions. For there is other information on the applicant which identifies one's race. That requirement should, too, be abolished. By getting rid of the photograph a great moral force has been put in operation to eradicate all prejudice in the government service. It is an invitation to all people that we are approaching a real democracy where men will be judged on the basis of their merit instead of on the color of their skin or the contours of their physical features. It is a step closer to the solidarity that is so essential in times of emergency to any nation.

Chicago Ill

If the photoraph is banned other factors which have been used to bar Negroes from the government service can also be banned.

U. S. Officials Get Findings Of Conference

List of Seven Recommendations Set Forth

DEC 21 1940

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(ANP)—Making formal demands upon the United States Employment service for reforms in the practices at the D. C. Employment service to prevent discrimination against colored applicants and workers which gave rise to the McAlpin case, officials of the service conferred with Mrs. Gertrude E. Stone of the NAACP, George W. Goodman of the Urban League, U. S. Tate of the National Negro Congress and Eugene Davidson of the New Negro Alliance.

Martin Carpenter, chief of the employment service division, heard the plea along with Walter Burr and Oscar Hellenbeck of the U. S. Employment service and Robert Thomas, who is conducting a survey of the methods at the center on the order of Paul V. McNutt, federal security administrator.

OFFER RECOMMENDATIONS

Representatives stated their opposition to segregation in any government agency and recommended the following changes as necessary steps to abolish prejudice and dicrimination which have made the employment service a storm center for the past six months.

1. That a Negro be appointed assistant director in the D. C. center, which will assure representation in the matters of policy making.

2. That Negro workers be integrated in non-operative divisions, such as veterans placement bureau and the testing division.

3. That a Negro be placed on the public relations committee.

4. The abolition of the practice for forbidding Negro interviewers to contact white employers, as well as the discarding of any regulations restricting the field of operation of Negro interviewers which do not apply equally to white interviewers.

5. That Negro workers be made eligible for consistent salary and grade promotions with white workers.

6. The revival of the citizens' advisory committee on the D. C. employment center on a regularly functioning basis; the designation of a CIO on this committee, and the replacement of present members who cannot attend the regular meetings with other community representatives who will give the problems of the center the attention they deserve.

7. The revision of Harry S. McAlpin's service rating to permit his permanent reinstatement.

ABOLISH "WHITE" CALLS

An immediate result of the conference will be the discontinuance of the practice in radio broadcasts in which the representative of the center specifies white when calling for applicants for certain positions. Regarding the practice of limiting the methods by which Negro interviewers can seek job opportunities for colored applicants, Mr. Carpenter indicated methods would be worked out which would enable the Negro interviewers to increase their contacts with white employers.

The committee also learned that as a result of its interview in August with Mr. Jones of the employment center, President Mitchell of the civil service commission and Administrator McNutt, that all government agencies calling the employment center for workers are required to send written orders. This, it is believed, will be of value in the future in fixing the responsibility for discriminatory practices.

Protest Bias Of Negro Labor In The South

Urban League Attacks Ad Telling Of "White, Intelligent Labor"

DEC 19 1940

NEW YORK, N. Y.—The National Urban League this week protested against an advertisement which appeared recently in TIME Magazine, in which "white, intelligent labor" was mentioned as one of the outstanding attractions of the Southern states to industries contemplating moving to that section.

The advertisement was sponsored by the United Gas Pipe Line Company. It invited new industries to locate in the Gulf Southern States—Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Florida and Alabama. Since its appearance in TIME it has been published by several other nationally circulated magazines.

In a letter to Mr. R. H. Hargrove, vice president and general manager of the United Gas Pipe Line Company, Lester B. Granger, assistant executive secretary of the National Urban League, in charge of industrial relations, emphasized the league's contention that as new industries develop in a community, and as employment opportunities expand, Negroes should be included proportionately in those opportunities if only as a matter of protection and economy for the entire community.

Mr. Granger at the same time urged both the Chamber of Commerce of the U. S. A. and the National Association of Manufacturers to take steps, through an official statement and other action by its individual members, to disclaim any sympathy with such a policy as is implied in the United Gas Pipe Line Company's advertisement.

LABOR 1940
DISCRIMINATION

GENERAL

Houston Files Suit For $50,000

MEMPHIS—(SNS)—Discriminatory practices against Negro railroad laborers who hold seniority preference rights as firemen and enginemen by the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Engineers, will be challenged in court.

Attorney Charles H. Houston, noted counsel for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, filed a $50,000 damage suit against the Brotherhood in Federal Court, Western District of Tennessee, Monday of this week. Co-defendant in the suit is the Gulf, Mobile & Northern Railroad Company.

FIREMAN REPLACED

The G.M. & N. was named in the bill because the plaintiff in the case, Ed Teague, of Louisville, Miss., is an employee of that line, holding seniority preference right. However Mr. Teague, according to the bill, has been replaced as a regular fireman of the line by a white laborer, in the junior division.

The suit is based upon "complaint for injunction and damages for fraud, breach of contract, breach of trust and for violation of the Railway Labor Act." It states in part:

"Ed Teague is a Negro citizen of the United States, and employed as a locomotive fireman by Gulf, Mobile & Northern Railroad Company, on its Tennessee Division with seniority rights dating from March 5, 1917."

Mr. Teague, in bringing suit in his own behalf, will serve as a test case for a number of other Negro employes on the same railroad.

ATTACK COLOR BARRIER

The Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen is a national unincorporated association with a membership composed principally of locomotive firemen and enginemen employed on interstate railroads, including the Gulf, Mobile & Northern line. The Brotherhood has a local office in Jackson, Tennessee, and likewise the railroad maintains a terminal in Jackson.

"Membership in the Brotherhood has always been and is now restricted by constitution and practice to white locomotive firemen and enginemen," the bill averrs, 'Negro locomotive firemen otherwise eligible being excluded from membership solely because of race or color."

The Brotherhood, in an effort to obtain for its white members a monoply of employment on the G. M. & N. R.R., and other railroads, and gradually to eliminate Negro employes, has from time to time over a period of fifteen years or more "secretly negotiated with the defendant railroad a series of agreements and modifications of agreements placing ever increasing stricture on the employment of Negro locomotive firemen, and curtailing the rights and perquisites of Negro locomotive firemen, actually in service of the defendant railroad (G.M. & N,) to the advantage of white locomotive firemen."

WEED OUT RACE WORKERS

Employment for Negro employes has greatly declined since these unlawful and unfair agreements have been effected, the bill declares, with job assignments becoming less frequent and more irregular, and their work more hazardous and burdensome as a class in comparison with the number, job assignments and work of white employes.

Teague used as a spearhead of his suit the seniority preference rights clause in the contract of railroad men, declaring in his bill that such rights on "job carry more favored rates of pay, hours and working conditions, depending upon the fireman's longevity in service compared with that of other locomotive firemen in the same division. Such dights form an integral part of the employment contract of each fireman with the G.M. & N., the bill states.

"COLLECTIVE BARGAINING"

While using a federal law, Railway Labor Act, (June 21, U. S. Code, Title 45c.8) as a basis for collective bargaining with railroad lines, the Brotherhood has done so for the advantage of its white members only since Negro firemen and other employes eligible for membership are excluded from the association.

Such collective bargaining covers rates of pay, rules and working conditions, and for the handling of grievances and disputes between the individual firemen and railroads arising out of their employment and service. The Railway Labor Act, the bill continues, has therefore, become authority for the Brotherhood to function as the "sole and exclusive representative between its members and the railroads.

"In having this federal law enforced, the Brotherhood did so to the advantage of members and disadvantage of non members," the complaint declared.

CONCLUDE COMPROMISE

Some years prior to 1938 the Gulf, Mobile & Northern, as in the case of other railroads, inaugurated the policy of replacing coal burning locomotives on its fast passenger runs with Diesal-engined locomotives. As a result many white firemen, members of the Brotherhood began to lose regular employment.

"For the purpose of obtaining a monopoly of employment for its own membership and restoring the regular employment for its displaced members," the Brotherhood "fraudulently and secretly on or about January 5, 1938, concluded a compromise agreement whereby the G.M. & N. would not be required to put locomotive firemen in the Deisel-engined locomotives then in service, but white locomotive firemen would be given preference over Negro firemen on mechanical stoker-fired coal burning locomotive regardless of vested seniority rights.

"In making this secret, fraudulent compromise agreement the railroad illegally broke its individual contracts with the plaintiff (Ed Teague) and other Negro firemen and violated their vested seniority preference rights; and the Brotherhood unlawfully induced and maliciously caused the railroad to break contracts and violate said rights," the bill asserted.

ON REGULAR RUN

Ed Teague, prior to January 5, 1938 and until May 17, 1938, was regularly employed by the Gulf, Mobile, and Northern Railroad, holding seniority preference rights. He was a locomotive fireman on a hand-fired locomotive, assigned to a regular fast freight run with definite wages, and hours and working conditions.

"On or about May 17, 1938, the G.M. & N. assigned a stoker-fired engine to Teague's run, and replaced Teague, notwithstanding his seniority standing, with a junior white locomotive fireman who was a member of the Brotherhood. Teague was placed on the extra list or "extra board." Men on the extra list are not regularly assigned and get opportunity to work only when a regularly assigned fireman is off in case of emergency.

Mr. Teague lost about 200 days pay at a minimum of $6.56 per day, the bill states. He has been unable to work regularly except at intervals and has been forced to accept more hazardous and burdensome job assignments than if his seniority preference rights had been observed.

REPLACE WITH WHITES

As the result of the Brotherhood's policy of discrimination and the secret compromise effected with the G.M. & N. every Negro fireman holding regularly assigned runs has been replaced by a junior white fireman.

The bill contends that service as a locomotive fireman on a stoker-fired engine is a preferred assignment involving less hazardous and less burdensome work than on a hand-fired engine. It added that Teague had been assigned only to hand-fired engine at unneccessary peril to his life and limb.

Declaring that he has exhausted his administrative remedies, Mr. Teague stated that it was necessary for him to turn to the court for relief. He has sought membership in the Brotherhood..taken his case to the National Mediation Board and to the National Railroad Adjustment Board..each having rejected his plea.

SEEK INJUNCTION

The bill ask for (1) permanent injunction against both the Brotherhood and the railroad, restraining each of them from enforcing or otherwise recognizing secret fraudulent compromise agreement (2) discovery by the Brotherhood of all agreements negotiated with or proposed by it to the railroad wherein it purported to act as the sole representative of all the firemen; (3) restoration of the vested seniority preference; (4) permanent injunction against Brotherhood, its officers, from acting as sole representative under the Railway Labor Act for all firemen; (5) all relief for Negro firemen on the defendant railroad as a class otherwise prayed for the plaintiff, Ed Teague, personally; (6) individual damages for plaintiff against the defendant Brotherhood for loss of wages, destruction of his vested seniority preference rights, and the other injuries set forth in the complaint, in the sum of fifty thousand dollars.

Besides Attorney Houston, four lawyers are retained for the plaintiffs. They are Joseph O. Waddy, of Washington, D.C.; J. Henry Claytor, Roanoke, Va.; Thurgood Marshall, New York City, N. Y.; and J. T. Settle, Memphis, Tennessee.

Say Job Discrimination Causes Race's Problems

By HOLLIS A. WOODS

Discrimination in employment of Race workers was regarded as the general source from which flow all the problems of Race members in Chicago, according to testimony given by outstanding political, business, and social figures attending the Metropolitan Chicago Conference on Employment Problems of the Negro, Thursday, May 23, at the Morrison hotel.

Alderman Earl B. Dickerson declared that he was preparing to argue before the city council that the new municipal subway should be controlled by the city, rather than by public utility companies, so that, as in New York, there would be no question about racial discrimination in the selection of employees.

The alderman's statement was a reply to Rev. Thomas McGlynn, white, who asked the conference whether any move had been made to penalize public utilities for discriminating against Race members in matters of employment.

James E. Stamps, manager of the Chicago field office of the Social Security Board, pointed out that the doors of several industries are closed to Race members, and that those which are open generally offer only low pay, menial occupations to Race workers.

"It is a bit puzzling to the Negro," Mr. Stamps said, "why he can be trusted to drive trucks and autos, which require guidance and skill, but cannot be relied upon to direct a street car, which must move in a given groove."

Mayor Edward J. Kelly, unable to attend the conference, sent his greeting by Atty. Wendell E. Green, well known city civil service commissioner and president of Provident hospital. Attorney Green quoted the mayor as saying; "Something must be done to untangle the web which stifles the economic hope and....liberty of the Negro of America." The mayor's greeting included an official and personal pledge to cooperate in the efforts of the conference.

Other speakers at the conference, which lasted almost five hours, were: Martin P. Durkin, director of the Illinois State Department of Labor; Rev. Bernard J. Sheil, auxiliary bishop of the Catholic archdiocese of Chicago; Lieut. L. A. Oxley, Negro placement supervisor of the Social Security Board; H. L. McCarthy of the Social Security Board; R. L. Goodman of the Chicago Association of Commerce; P. T. Swanish of the Illinois State Department of Labor; H. D. Gould of the Chicago Urban League, Mrs. C. Goldsmith and Leo R. Werts of the Illinois State Employment Service; C. P. Browning of the NYA; Miss Lillian Proctor of the Chicago Relief Administration; and R. L. Jones of the South Center Department Store.

The conference, an interracial concourse, attempted a thoroughgoing, frank and unprejudiced discussion of the perplexing economic problems which beset the Race today. Some of the facts were that Race members, although constituting only eight percent of the population of Chicago, nevertheless contribute 45 percent of the relief load. Race members are equal in mentality to white men; and that white employers generally give two reasons for not hiring Race members in clerical or executive capacities: first, the employers are loath to antagonize their white employees, and second, they fear that white customers will object.

Plane Factory Qualifications Don't Mean A Thing When You Are Colored

This Is More Evidence of Discrimination In Spending Government Money

BY JAMES L. H. PECK FOR ANP

PHILADELPHIA — Lt. Paul Williams was refused a job as senior engineer at the naval aircraft factory here despite the fact that the United States is spending $250,000 to advertise for engineers.

Lt. Williams, who came up from the ranks to win a commission in the Spanish Army Air Corps during the Civil War, passed his U. S. Civil Service Examination with a rating of 89.8 per cent and ranked ninth on the list of eligibles.

Got Promises, No Work

After several visits to the factory Lieutenant Williams received promises and dark looks, but no job. He is doing well at engineering work elsewhere.

The navy, meanwhile, is crying for competent aeronautical engineers and inspectors, is even hiring Bundsmen and Nazis—but these un-Americans regardless of all they stand for, have fair faces. That's what determines whether or not one is an American or a fine engineer in this great democracy.

No Chance with Hitler

On the contrary in Hitler's hegemony, neither Paul nor I, could get flying or engineering training. Adolph doesn't believe in "educating born half-apes," according to 'Mein Kampf'

Here, you may get the training — if your money is long enough and your heart stout enough to take it— but you benefit little from it. In Naziland, it is considered "stupidity to permit colonial peoples (colored and jews) to acquire knowledge and ambitions 'unsuited' to their racial status."

Faint Hope in View

Here theye may be hope, over there, ittle if any. The 'nope' here, as we see it, is a war threat so terrible that they will be glad to have engineers and combat pilots regardless of complexion.

These are strong words, even as the Southern bloc in Washington is strong willed in its determination to apply Hitlerism to U. S. military policy. In answer to these ante-bellum Dixieists one might pose this premise:

If, or when, American skies are darkened by a cloud of enemy bombers, and several squadrons of air corps interceptors rise to fend them off, will you prejudiced gentlemen object to the fact that colored boys are flying these defending crafts so long as we stop those enemy bombers

Will War Change Policy?

And will you gentlemen cast aspersions, among other things, if a couple of us should enter the army club with some of our white flying buddies? Will you insist that that Washington restaurant proprietor send us to the kitchen for a drink of water when we are tired and thirsty after a long victory parade shoulder to shoulder with fairer flying officers who are not shown to the kitchens?

Will you later demobilize this colored flying unit that so gloriously protected its sector of American sky? Yes, you probably will, even a war won't awaken you; the last one did not. But this one may be different.

Carpenters To Appeal Ga. Labor Discrimination Suit

COLUMBUS, Ga.—(SNS)—Superior Court Judge C. F. McLaughling Saturday dismissed a suit in equity against the City of Columbus and contractors engaged in construction of housing projects here which were brought by three colored carpenters, who alleged discrimination as to employment.

It was learned Wednesday that the case will be carried to the State Court of Appeals.

Several special demurrers by the local authority and by the individual contractors named as party defendants had not been heard when the suit was ordered dismissed on the general demurrers, which were presented just after counsel for the complainants had finished reading their complaint. In the general demurrers it was contended by counsel and held by the court that the plaintiffs were not parties to the contract between the housing authority and the contractors and therefore had no legal right to bring the suit.

The plaintiffs, T. I. Walton, J. H. Hood, and Shepherd Thompson, all of Muscogee county, allege in their petition that the Mion Construction Company, J. P. Bradford, the Virginia Engineering Company and the Columbus Housing Authority are employing less than 25 per cent of skilled Negro workers in their construction of the Booker T. Washington and the George Foster Peabody apartments.

Through counsel, E. C. Britton, the plaintiffs contended that they were within their rights in bringing the suit on the grounds that they and other Negroes were probable beneficiaries under the contract, which it contended provided there should be no discrimination as to the employment of eligible skilled workers.

Plaintiffs' action claimed that the contractors and builders have not paid 25 per cent of the total wages for skilled help to skilled Negro workers and alleged that such a figure would run to more than $3,000 on the projects. The suit, filed March 8, sought to prevent further work on the projects until at least 25 per cent of the total wages for skilled help was paid to skilled Negro workers.

War Dept. Reneges on Clerk Job

NOV 9 1940

(Exclusive to the AFRO)

ATLANTA, Ga.—Despite her experience, a civil service examination rating of 98, and an official telegram of appointment, Mrs. Vashti Cook, formerly of Baltimore, was flatly refused any consideration by a Mrs. Van Zandt, personnel officer at an Atlanta branch of the War Department.

Mrs. Cook

The position was that of junior card punch operator at $1,440 a year. Many such operators are needed at this time for work in the census and also in connection with the draft.

Sends Protests

"You are colored, you haven't got a chance," said Mrs. Van Zandt, when Mrs. Cook called at the office with her telegram in hand. The personnel officer further refused to allow Mrs. Cook to see Lieut. Col. T. L. Holland who had wired Mrs. Cook and others certified by the Civil Service Commission.

Mrs. Cook has protested to the commission, the Department of Justice (Civil Liberties Division), and to Dean William H. Hastie, recently appointed civilian aide to the War Department.

HIT UTILITIES REFUSAL TO HIRE NEGROES

Seek Guarantee in New Ordinance

6/30/40

By JOHN H. JOHNSON

More than 100 persons representing Chicago's 300,000 colored population appeared before the Local Transportation Committee of the city council, Monday, and demanded that the Proposed Traction Ordinance for the city, include a clause which would guarantee that a certain percentage of the employees of the reorganized system be colored.

Utility companies of the city have long practiced discrimination with regard to the employment of members of the race and Negro leaders at the hearing expressed the belief that the inclusion of the employment clause was the best way of making sure that persons of color be given equal opportunity for employment in all branches of the system.

Civic Leaders Urged Action

Among the Negro leaders who spoke at the hearing were Joseph Jefferson, Ishmael P. Florey, Howard D. Gould, Mrs. Irene McCoy Gaines, Rev. Archibald J. Carey Jr., Alderman Benjamin A. Grant, who along with Alderman Earl B. Dickerson has urged members of the City Council to include the employment clause in the Ordinance, and Atty. Oscar C. Brown, chairman of the Chicago Negro Chamber of Commerce.

Attorney Brown astounded the Traction Committee members when he presented the signatures of 50,000 colored people asking that the clause be included in the Ordinance.

Aldermen Pledge Aid

Alderman Kells who is a member of the Local Transporation Committee said that it was his belief that any company operating on a franchise such as the traction companies should not discriminate against any citizen in employing its personnel.

Alderman Quinn, who is chairman of the Transportation Committee promised the group that he would do all in his power to see that the clause was included in the ordinance.

Sometime ago Alderman Dickerson as president of the Cook County Bar Association directed Attorney Sidney A. Jones, Jr., who is chairman of the Association's Committee on Labor to look into the legality of including an employment clause in the Traction Ordinance.

Members of the Committee presented their opinion at the meeting Monday.

Firm Fires Lone Negro Manager For White Man

DEC 5 1940

CHICAGO, Dec.—(ANP)—Chicagoans were aroused this week over the sudden ousting of Dr. Sage P. Brown, manager of the South Parkway branch store of the Dr. Ritholz Optical company, and his replacement by a young Jewish graduate in optometry.

Dr. Brown was the lone Negro manager in the company's chain of stores throughout, Chicago, Illinois, Ohio, Indiana, Tennessee, Pennsylvania, Alabama and Georgia. The firm deals mainly in eye glasses. For seven and a half years Dr. Brown was head of the Southside branch. When he reported Monday for work, he was told that his services were no longer required.

Dr. Brown, a graduate of Lincoln University, Pennsylvania, and of the Northern College of Optometry in 1930, plans to open his own offices here in Chicago.

Job Promised, Then Withdrawn, Kansan Claims

Call - 7-12-40

L. W. Tennyson Asks Damages of $5,998 Against Board of Regents and Building Engineer for Color Bar

Kansas City, Mo.

KANSAS CITY, Kas. — (Special) —F. R. Applegate and the board of regents of the State of Kansas are defendants in a damage suit for $5,998.48 brought by L. W. Tennyson, plasterer, who claims in his petition that he was denied, because of color, a job of plastering at the University of Kansas hospital and which refusal came after the plaintiff had been promised the work by Mr. Applegate and other private employment had been cancelled by Mr. Tennyson to go to work on the new job.

According to Mr. Tennyson's court record he was registered as a plasterer with the Kansas State Employment office and that on June 11 he was informed by an employe of that agency that a job was available for him. On June 12, claims the plaintiff, he called at the employment office and was told to go to the University of Kansas hospital where he was to contact F. R. Applegate, engineer and in charge of construction there.

After an interview with Mr. Applegate Mr. Tennyson states that he was told he would be given at least six weeks of work as a plasterer on a clinic project, could begin work immediately and his rate of pay would be $1.27 an hour.

The plaintiff, according to his petition, stated that he told Mr. Applegate that he was on a job but could start on Friday, June 14, which received the latter's approval.

On Friday when he went to the state institution to start work, Tennyson, in his petition, stated that Applegate informed him that he would have to break his contract because some workmen on the job might quit if he, Tennyson, was permitted to come on the job.

The plaintiff says he told Applegate that for every plasterer that quit he could supply an expert to take his place. The defendant, states the petition, refused and still refuses to disclose the names of those whom he says would refuse to work with Mr. Tennyson.

Mr. Tennyson, says Mr. Applegate knew he was a non-union worker when he consented to give him the plastering job. He states further that Applegate told him there were non-union workers on the job, mostly of the plaintiff's color and that $12.56 a day was a lot of money for a Negro to be making.

The suit was filed in district court July 2 by Attorney Ulysses G. Plummer.

Mr. Tennyson has been following the plastering trade for 15 years and has worked on some of the biggest projects in this area. He lives at 1927 North Third street.

Social Injustice Does Not Pay--- Share the Work

To owners and employes of Kansas City industries that have government contracts:

NOV 22 1940

The work on which you are engaged is proof positive to you that the government thinks it is in dire need of defense. All America having pledged on election night to support the President as the one step to be taken first, you certainly agree that this is no time for divided councils. The defense being needed and President Roosevelt being the people's choice to lead, it follows that you should do whatever he asks.

The Call

Through the labor policy adopted by the National Defense Advisory committee, the President asks that there be "no discrimination" in work done for the common defense, a practical step. Building an adequate defense is an immense undertaking that requires every hand. At the same time it can be a call to patriotism, a move of highest spiritual value in the light of the experiences of nations that fell because they were divided.

The excuses and explanations given by the firms whose position on the employment of Negroes was news in this paper a week ago indicate that you do not think anything calls for a change in your habit. Poland, Norway, Denmark, Holland, Belgium and France are no warning to you. Britain reeling under the impact of bombs to you is some fairy tale. Even if President Roosevelt is seeking national unity and maximum production means all must work with none barred because of race, color and religion, you feel that your ideas of race relations justify disregarding his request. Then why not say that in plain language and let those contracts you have go to others who will put the nation's welfare first?

But let's look forward, not backward. Our country and the democratic principle are now being stalked by Hitler who would crush them utterly as the one thing he must do to survive. In this country's defense Negroes have always counted. They stood with Jackson behind the cotton bales at New Orleans, they were valiant in the ships with Perry on Lake Erie. Their New York national guard regiment came home from overseas with its battle flags bearing France's insignia for conspicuous service.

Kansas City, Mo.

Negroes and Whites Work Together Daily

In this day war is no longer fought in a thin battle line. In the World war it became several supporting trenches. Today it is nation deep, with every producer as much needed by the defense and as certain to be attacked by the enemy as the man with the gun. America has not tried to win any other war without the Negro. Yet that is what it will be trying to do if he does not have his share in production now.

Do you say "Let Negroes work, but not under the same roof with me?" Why not with you? Whites do let blacks work beside them. Every day in this very community whites and blacks wield the shovel together on WPA projects. The other claim that employing both races requires separate locker facilities is more nonsense.

You who own and operate industries, bear in mind that social justice will not be halted by any likes or dislikes you have. You say you are Americans, and that you support your President in this crisis. Then share the work just as you expect Negroes to share the dangers of our national defense. If you can't be fair, be sensible.

Either practice democracy or boldly adopt the Hitler pattern with its purges, concentration camps and wholesale deportations. You owners, let your ownership become mere title as it is in Germany. You workers, go in for one big union like Germany has, dictated to by another Hitler. There is no middle ground.

If you think you can put off sharing work with the Negro worker, read your papers. The fifth columnist, because he is white, is given work in plant after plant, while the loyal Negro is ordered out when he gets in line for work. Read your papers and see how the South and Central American nations keep holding back their confidence from the United States at this time when we feel that alliance with them is our best defense. Those countries have a majority that is "colored." No wonder they fear you. They see how you treat your own colored citizens, who ask only that they be sheltered by the structure which they helped build. Be sensible! Social injustice does not pay!

Don't Handcuff the Negro's Loyalty

Employment given without discrimination will be a new deal for Negro workers. Custom has barred them for the most part hitherto. Now your President asks that you share the work with them. If you do not share with them, it is a refusal to follow his leadership. You will have set out on the road that made France fall.

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The work on which you are engaged is proof positive to you that the government thinks it is in dire need of defense. All America having pledged on election night to support the President as the one step to be taken first, you certainly agree that this is no time for divided councils. The defense being needed and President Roosevelt being the people's choice to lead, it follows that you should do whatever he asks.

The Call

Through the labor policy adopted by the National Defense Advisory committee, the President asks that there be "no discrimination" in work done for the common defense, a practical step. Building an adequate defense is an immense undertaking that requires every hand. At the same time it can be a call to patriotism, a move of highest spiritual value in the light of the experiences of nations that fell because they were divided.

The excuses and explanations given by the firms whose position on the employment of Negroes was news in this paper a week ago indicate that you do not think anything calls for a change in your habit. Poland, Norway, Denmark, Holland, Belgium and France are no warning to you. Britain reeling under the impact of bombs to you is some fairy tale. Even if President Roosevelt is seeking national unity and maximum production means all must work with none barred because of race, color and religion, you feel that your ideas of race relations justify disregarding his request. Then why not say that in plain language and let those contracts you have go to others who will put the nation's welfare first?

But let's look forward, not backward. Our country and the democratic principle are now being stalked by Hitler who would crush them utterly as the one thing he must do to survive. In this country's defense Negroes have always counted. They stood with Jackson behind the cotton bales at New Orleans, they were valiant in the ships with Perry on Lake Erie. Their New York national guard regiment came home from overseas with its battle flags bearing France's insignia for conspicuous service.

Kansas City, Mo.

Negroes and Whites Work Together Daily

In this day war is no longer fought in a thin battle line. In the World war it became several supporting trenches. Today it is nation deep, with every producer as much needed by the defense and as certain to be attacked by the enemy as the man with the gun. America has not tried to win any other war without the Negro. Yet that is what it will be trying to do if he does not have his share in production now.

Do you say "Let Negroes work, but not under the same roof with me?" Why not with you? Whites do let blacks work beside them. Every day in this very community whites and blacks wield the shovel together on WPA projects. The other claim that employing both races requires separate locker facilities is more nonsense.

You who own and operate industries, bear in mind that social justice will not be halted by any likes or dislikes you have. You say you are Americans, and that you support your President in this crisis. Then share the work just as you expect Negroes to share the dangers of our national defense. If you can't be fair, be sensible.

Either practice democracy or boldly adopt the Hitler pattern with its purges, concentration camps and whole sale deportations. You owners, let your ownership become mere title as it is in Germany. You workers, go in for one big union like Germany has, dictated to by another Hitler. There is no middle ground.

If you think you can put off sharing work with the Negro worker, read your papers. The fifth columnist, because he is white, is given work in plant after plant, while the loyal Negro is ordered out when he gets in line for work. Read your papers and see how the South and Central American nations keep holding back their confidence from the United States at this time when we feel that alliance with them is our best defense. Those countries have a majority that is "colored." No wonder they fear you. They see how you treat your own colored citizens, who ask only that they be sheltered by the structure which they helped build. Be sensible! Social injustice does not pay!

Don't Handcuff the Negro's Loyalty

Employment given without discrimination will be a new deal for Negro workers. Custom has barred them for the most part hitherto. Now your President asks that you share the work with them. If you do not share with them, it is a refusal to follow his leadership. You will have set out on the road that made France fall.

You inflict "cruel and unusual punishment" when you require Negroes to buy food, clothing and shelter in the common market at the same time preventing them from earning a living on even terms. The custom is all wrong. It weakens the home market. It handcuffs loyalty.

Granted that you do not want Negroes to have work, which is uppermost with you, your wishes or your country's good? That's the question. This public letter asks you to think!

But if you cannot or will not think, then see what you invite! Men's basic needs are under the protection of Heaven itself. That must be so, or progress would not keep on riding like a car of Juggernaut over obstacles. Mark how labor unionism has advanced. Negroes' forefathers were brought to this country for somebody else's selfish advantage, only to be set free. From actual chattel slavery they moved on into industrial bondage. Now to save itself, the President speaking for the nation says "Share the work" with them.

If you cannot or will not think, then look back in memory or read history. In 1856 the white slaves of Russia were set free. But their freedom like that of the blacks in this country was only in name. They were ruthlessly repressed by the Czars. Then came 1917. The wrongs they suffered spawned bolshevism. Communism, fascism and nazism followed in its steps. Against them we find ourselves compelled to arm. Social injustice abroad did not stop there. Neither will it be a harmless rash over here.

Census Workers Appear 'Out' In New Orleans, La.

——Law Against Work; What Next.

NEW ORLEANS, La., Jan. 5 — Expressions from the newly appointed chairmen of the local committee set-up to direct the New Orleans 1940 census survey of resources, etc., indicate that Negroes will not be used as enumerators.

James M. Hamilton of the Washington office of the census bureau answered inquiries as to what consideration would be given Race workers with: "Negroes will be used only in territories that are wholly occupied by Negro businesses or residences."

Enforcement of the anti-segregation law some years ago placed New Orleans among the very few cities where there are no exclusively Race districts. In practically every block in the city their is a mixture of races. This, taking Mr. Hamilton's statement as factual, will eliminate Race workers completely.

Clarence A. Laws, industrial secretary of the New Orleans Urban League, has for the past several weeks corresponded with Washington and local officials relative to placement of Race workers in the set-up, and when contacting the directors and chairmen was given the above explanation.

Leaders and citizens said they found themselves stumped as to what move to make towards offsetting this unjust exclusion of Race workers from participation in the census work.

Several months ago James H. Coutcher, state WPA administrator, attempted to explain the reason for this exclusion by stating that white residents would be reluctant to give information to Race workers. It was, however, pointed out to him that such action would be in direct violation of a federal statute.

Numbers of Race families here found themselves in difficulties through this statute when they refused to give white census takers information as a protest against the exclusion.

The bill introduced in the Louisiana legislature which says only bona fide voters can work on the railroads, is meant to drive Negroes from that work. Its intent proves how wise the reconstruction statesmen were after all. It must be admitted that from an educational point of view, the war amendments found the Negro unready. But had he not been given the ballot anyway, he would not have had any chance to show his fitness for citizenship. Ignorant and inexperienced freedmen used the first decade of their citizenship effectively as compared to how they would have fared without the ballot.

This proposed legislation would be unconstitutional if passed. It is contrary to the treatment given whites, the immigrant without citizen papers having found work in this country from the earliest days. But it can pass a southern legislature because prejudice still holds down there that the blacks must be kept in their place.

NEW ORLEANS POSTMASTER MANEUVERS TO KEEP NEGRO NAMES OFF OF HIGHER LIST

Eligible List for Laborers Exhausted, So Officer Offers Clerk Applicants 'Permanent' Jobs in Lower Bracket

NEW ORLEANS.—(ANP)—Shrewd maneuvering on the part of the local postmaster was found to be the reason why several Negroes who have been eligible for postal clerk appointments, are now working as laborers in the post office.

This trick was pared through an investigation following reports that there was no laborers' eligible list and the several Negroes that had made passing grades on clerk examinations were now employed as laborers, and that their names had been "erased" from the clerks' eligible list.

Checking with the Civil Service commission on this, it was found that no eligible list for laborers existed, and that it had expired so long ago no records were readily available. Further investigation revealed that several appointments in this service had been made in the last few years and that these appointments were Negroes, formerly eligibles on the clerks' list.

According to Leon Lewis, Associated Negro Press representative, who is directing the investigation, there are at least four Negroes working in the local post office as laborers who were clerk - eligibles from the 1935 clerk-carriers' examination.

Since the expiration of the laborers' eligible list, the postmaster secured permission from the commission to "offer" clerk eligibles permanent laborer's appointments. He has the right to select one of three, and it being very "convenient" to choose a Negro, offers him the "switch" in this manner: A letter gives the clerk eligible full right to accept or reject the offer.

To accept the permanent laborer appointment, the prospect's name is erased from the clerk's list. To further encourage his scheme the postmaster infers that he doesn't know how soon a clerk appointment will be made and asks that the prospect sign and return "form" on back of letter. This, of course, returns also the letter to the sender, postmaster.

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DISCRIMINATION

MICHIGAN

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CHARLES C. DIGGS

STANLEY NOWAK

house. We have been sleeping under old overcoats that our friends gave us. Not one of our six children (all under thirteen) have any underwear or night dresses. Every night they nearly freeze. All are sick with colds. . . . We have had about six workers in the last year and they all tell us they can't get bedding for us. I want to the Salvation Army. The head lady told me that they would give me two springs and mattresses, but she would have to have a note from my worker that they did not have any. So I asked my worker for a note and she would not give it to me."

Protests Restore Civil Service Pay in Detroit

Daily Worker
New York, N.Y.

Progressive Senators Expose Practice of Welfare Department of Forcing Relief Clients to Work Below Union Standards

DEC 25 1940

(Special to the Daily Worker)

DETROIT, Dec. 24.—Fourteen firemen who have been on the relief rolls for the past few months were reinstated to the former civil service rating this week as a result of charges made by Senators Charles C. Diggs and Stanley Nowak against the Welfare Department.

The Senators, both leading proponents of a third party movement in Michigan, charged that the Welfare Department has forced thousands of people on relief to work for non-union wages and below civil service standards.

The 14 firemen, whose civil service rating entitled them to $110 a month, were receiving only $90 a month for tending furnaces at various stations.

The investigation following the charges showed that many highly skilled workers, who before losing their jobs were earning in many cases $1 and $1.15 an hour, were required to do the same highly skilled work for 60 to 65 cents an hour or less by the Welfare Department.

REJECTED BY WPA

The investigation revealed that nearly $2,000 worth of labor has been put into city services yearly by persons on relief through the relief-labor program. Vancies in various city departments have been filled by relief clients whose "wages" amount to nothing more than an inadequate relief budget.

Descriptive of the treatment is the following letter received by the investigating committee:

"There are nine on our budget and we have four beds and only two springs and mattresses, and not a blanket or comforter in the

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MISSISSIPPI

COLORED WORKMEN BARRED FROM WPA WORK IN JACKSON

JACKSON, Miss., Jan. 25—(ANP)—Startling revelations were discovered by S. D. Redmond, outstanding colored leader of this city when he, as president of the Jackson Negro Christmas Cheer Club, made a survey of the city's Negro poor. In reporting his findings, he says:

"We found that there are thousands of Negroes in Jackson who are woefully underfed and undernourished, who are slowly starving to death and don't know it. They can't get work. They have no means of support, no credit, no friends. They are a people almost without hope."

The report continues: "The bad economic condition of many Negroes here is due to the following causes:

"The Federal Government is doing practically nothing for them. Records show that Jackson has less Negroes on the WPA than any other city in this State in proportion to population."

A total of $300,000 is appropriated annually for Work Progress Administration sewing employment, according to Mr. Redmond but not one Negro woman is employed in this capacity, the sewing room for Negroes having been closed some time ago.

Enlarged opportunities in WPA work, and jobs from other sources is the only hope for Jackson's Negroes, concluded Mr. Redmond.

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Use of All-White Census Takers in Miss. Protested

WASHINGTON

Failure of the census director for the Third Congressional District of Mississippi, the population of which is 75 per cent colored, to employ one of this group as a census enumerator, brought a protest from Perry W. Howard, Republican national committeeman for Mississippi.

In a letter to Aubrey H. Bell, white, census director at Greenwood, Miss., Mr. Howard attributed the refusal to make this appointment to racial prejudice and political manipulation of the colored vote.

In a letter to the district representative, William L. Whittington, Mr. Howard wrote: "I must confess to you that I am disappointed beyond expression that during the entire eight years of the Democratic administration not a single Republican has been allowed even a spittoon cleaner's job."

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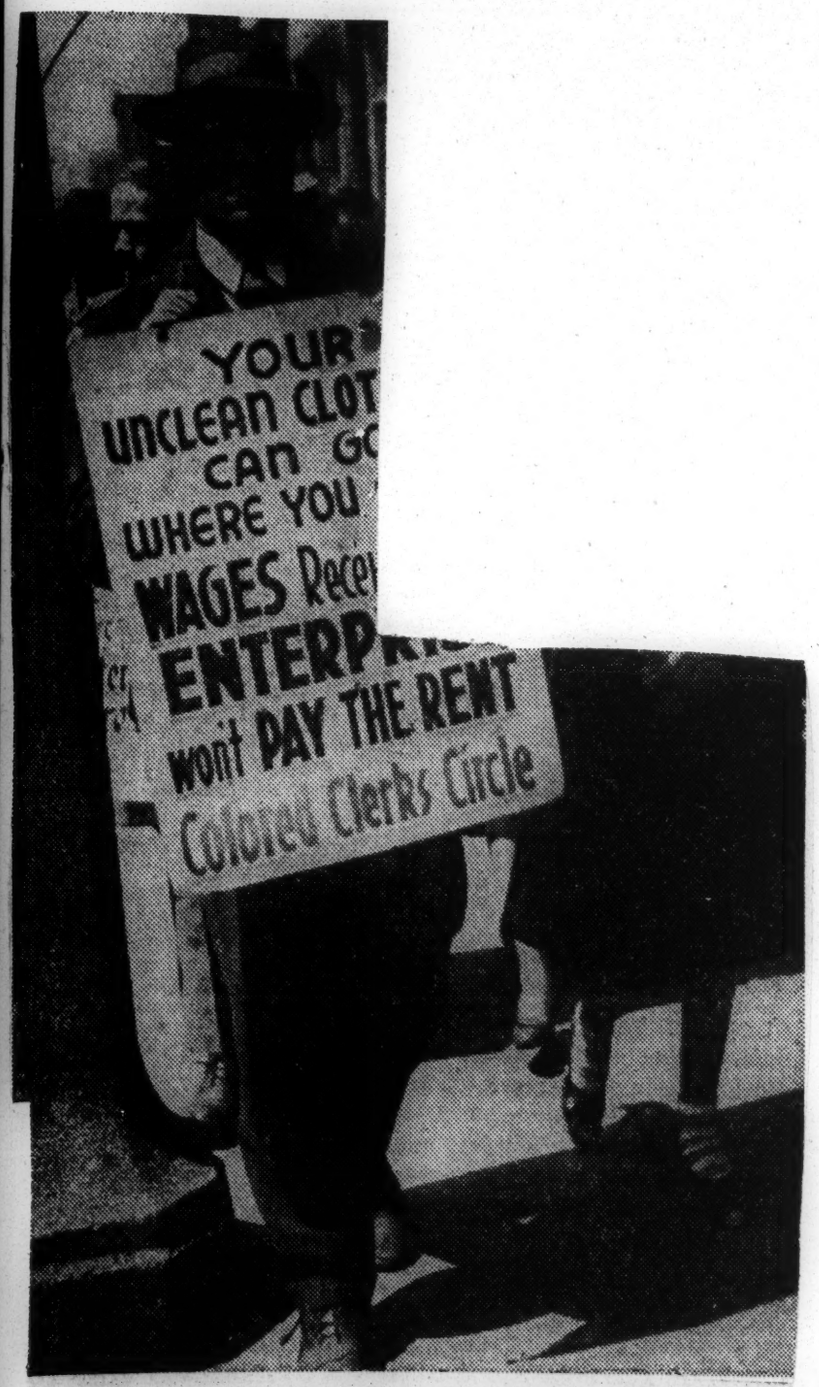

"Tell them to go to h——!" is the declaration of W. J. Mitchell, owner of Enterprise Cleaners, St. Louis, Mo., in a statement to local newspapermen who asked for his reaction to the picketing of his place by members of the Colored Clerks Circle last week. One of the city's most impressive demonstrations was staged Saturday, April 13, when 150 persons joined the big line carrying banners and signs. The Circle, headed by Frank Jones, son of Attorney Georgia Jones Ellis, has joined hands with the International Cleaning and Dyeing Union to secure jobs for the race and the union.

ZONING OF EMPLOYMENT OFFICES DISCRIMINATORY

UNDER A NEW ruling from Albany, the State Employment Service, which maintains offices in various parts of Greater New York and other large cities throughout the state, has decreed that each office must accept job openings only in their designated territory. This means, in the case of the 135th Street Branch, which covers the territory north of 125th street to 155th street in the central part of Harlem, that this office must not only register residents of this neighborhood who are unemployed, but should also assign only those jobs which come from people living in the same area.

If, for instance a call comes for a chauffeur from someone who resides on Park Ave., in the sixties, the prospective employer is given the address and phone number of the employment office nearest his residence and told to leave his application there. If he insists that he wants a Negro chauffeur, the application is sent to a central office and sent out to all the branch offices at the same time. The same is true of factory jobs.

As a matter of fact, the present setup has tended to limit the number of job opportunities of Negroes living in Harlem and as a result the 135th Street Branch of the State Employment Service has placed fewer applicants in jobs since the first of the year than any branch, excepting one in the entire city.

The former procedure was to assign all jobs for colored people, or in which color was no barrier, to the Harlem (135th Street) Branch. In that way employment opportunities were not limited exclusively to Harlem and a person could occasionally get a good job through this office, something that thousands have found impossible to do in the past winter and spring.

The reason for the zoning was explained to us in these words: "When the unemployment insurance law went into effect, three years ago, it was decided to use the State Employment Service offices as a place in which the unemployed could register, and this made it necessary for branches of the service to be placed in convenient locations throughout the city. As a result, the city was divided into 27 zones with an equal number of branch offices where those receiving unemployment compensation report periodically and others can apply for such compensation."

From this point of view, the zoning is a good thing, but we still think it a bad policy to limit job opportunities to the neighborhood which in the case of the Negro works a real hardship.

U. S. Workers Reinstated After Urban League Acts

NEW YORK, N. Y.—Report was made last week that five Negro government employees were returned to their posts in the stewards department of the United States Engineering Department at Memphis, following a ruling by the chief of Army Engineers.

The five employees—Johnny Webster, Louis M. Aldridge, Robert Sutton, Willie Metcalf and Leslie Artis—were summarily dismissed last February by order of the district engineer after they complained of being forced to work overtime and under onerous conditions in violation of the official rules regulating the hours and conditions of their employment.

Immediately upon their dismissal, they carried their case to the National Maritime Union of America, of which they were members. The Union appealed to the National Urban League for assistance in bringing pressure upon Federal departments for an investigation of these arbitrary and unfair dismissals.

Eugene Kinckle Jones, executive secretary of the National Urban League, communicated with the Civil Liberties Unit of the Department of Justice and the LaFollette Civil Liberties Committee. At the same time, many local affiliates of the National Urban League all over the country used their influence with Congressmen and Senators to see that the case be thoroughly and honestly reviewed.

A communication from William R. Henderson, Jr., Memphis agent of the Inland Boatmens Division of the National Maritime Union to Mr. Jones, states:

"With reference to our exchange of correspondence concerning the discharge of a number of employees of the U. S. Engineering Department, Memphis District, some months ago, you will be pleased to learn that the Chief of Army Engineers, after making a study of the record of a hearing held here recently, has decided that there was no basis for discharging these men, and has therefore ordered their reinstatement."

Tells Of Jim Crow, Hunger Wages In Oyster Industry

NEW YORK.—(Beth McHenry for CNA)—The Shell Fish community of the oyster fisheries along the Delaware in New Jersey was described this week by Harold A. Lett, executive secretary of the New Jersey Urban League, as the "worst spot in that state."

Lett, who tesified before the Congressional Committee investigating the Interstate Migration of Destitute Citizens, whose New York hearings ended this week, described the oyster shuckers' community as comprised of the "worst possible shacks to be found anywhere."

"Approximately a thousand Negroes live there the year around," he explained, "in dire shacks over the water. There are no toilets, only outdoor privies. And while each family is persumably assigned to a separate 'unit' strangers share the same quarters."

These shacks, he explained, are assigned only to Negroes. Conditions for whites in a neighboring community, however, he observed,

COLORED SEAMEN ON BIG LINERS BARRED

By TED POSTON
(Staff Correspondent)

NEW YORK, Aug. 15—Although complaints continued to pile up this week before the Maritime Commission that German-born stewards were openly insulting passengers on the United States Lines and boasting of Nazi victories, officials of the shipping company maintained its bans against Negro seamen on their big liners.

With several hundred Negro members of the National Maritime Union (with which the U. S. Lines have a contract) unemployed, operators of the line declared this week that it was impossible to "find native American seamen in sufficient numbers to replace" the Fascist-minded stewards who caused the complaints.

ATTITUDE HAS BEEN SOURCE OF COMPLAINT

The attitude of the Nazi-supporting German employes have been a source of complaint in the luxury liner field for several months, but protests to the Maritime Commission have increased in the past few weeks as a result of recent Hitler victories.

Specific complaints were filed recently when the Washington and the Manhattan docked here. According to passengers, the German-born stewards treated all Jewish refugees on the ships with flagrant discourtesy during the entire voyage.

Others declared that the Nazi-minded stewards rejoiced openly at every radio report of German successes and even broke ruedly into staterooms to tell passengers of the reports. Other stewards boasted openly of their hopes for a Nazi victory and held celebrations for the expected fall of Britain.

NEGROES BARRED FROM WORKING ON BIG SHIPS

German-born stewards compose up to 35 per cent of the unlicensed personnel of the luxury liners and predominate in the stewards department. Most of the unemployed Negro seamen in the NMU are in this department, but are barred from working on the big ships.

John M. Franklin, president of the United States Lines (which receives a subsidy from the U. S. Government) atempted to minimize the complaints of passengers. Admitting that he had received many complaints about the German-born sailors, he said:

"These men are all American citizens. If a passenger comes to us with a direct complaint instead of a generality, we would immediately remove the seaman in question from the ship."

The Maritime Commission is conducting an investigation of the complaints and will issue a report later.

The Negro members of the NMU have repeatedly sought to have the union demand a showdown on the color bans on the luxury liners, but with no result. The Pittsburgh Courier exposed the condition and other hardships on Negro seamen more than a year ago, and Joe Curran, white president of the union, and Ferdinand Smith, Negro secretary, declared that the union had ben powerless in the matter. Both said their organization was continuing to fight the condition.

CURRAN, SMITH AND OTHERS UNDER FIRE

This week, however, Curran, Smith and other NMU officers were under fire from another angle. The union heads were accused of controlling the NMU in the interes of the Communist Party and the Soviet Union, and Communist union members were charged with cooperating with Nazi members of the crew in furthering the interests of Hitler.

The charges were made in the New Leader by Charles Yale Harrison, noted white author and publicist, who declared that he had obtained several truckloads of evidence exposing the Communist connections of the union officials and Communist-Nazi cooperation on American ships.

In one instance, Mr. Harrison said, Nazi and Communist seamen joined each other in a South American port to gang up and assault a group of British seamen.

The author has challenged Curran to appear before an impartial body and answer the evidence which he will submit to that body. Curran denies that he is a Communist, or that the NMU is Communist-controlled.

Harlem Protests Gordon Baking Co. Discrimination

Community Groups Unite Against Dismissal of Negro White Collar Worker with Long Record of Service to Company

Organizing groups throughout Harlem are protesting the summary dismissal of Ellis A. Williams, special Negro representative for the Gordon Baking Company, 4225 21st St., Long Island City, by J. McGurk. new manager for the bread concern.

Organized groups throughout Harlem are protesting the summary dismissal of Ellis A. Williams, special Negro representative for the Gordon Baking Company, 4225 21st St. Long Island City, by J. McGurk, new manager for the bread concern.

Mr. Williams, who has been associated with the company for some time at a salary of $3,120 a year, was hired for his excellent qualifications and as a result of the organized work of the Greater New York Coordinating Committee for the Employment of Negroes in white collar jobs. After years of arduous work, the Committee has placed over 600 qualified Negroes in white collar jobs in utility, chain store, brewery, beverage and other corporations. Of the 600 workers in the Gordon Baking Company, nine Negroes are employed in executive capacity, as a result of the Committee's activities.

The reason for dismissal of Mr. Williams, according to the new manager, was retrenchment, but the Coordinating Committee disputes this point since four Negroes were hired the very same week by the company for laboring jobs. The dismissal is an obvious case of discrimination against Negroes in white collar jobs.

Reverend A. Clayton Powell, Jr., one of the chairmen of the Committee stated that Mr. Williams was fired because "he doesn't wear a bandana on his head."

Mr. William's services with the company have been exemplary. As a result of his excellent work he was given an official company car in order to facilitate his work. The manager took this convenience away from him as soon as he arrived on the job. As special representative, Mr. Williams earned the car as a result of the volume of business he had brought to the company. The Gordon Baking Company sells more bread than any other manufacturer in Harlem, getting the lion's share of daily sales amounting to over $12,000.. Mr. Williams had developed 12 of the best company routes in his community.

The National Negro Grocers Association has protested this act on the part of the new manager to the company. Other groups supporting the protest are the national office of the NAACP; the IWO; the Harlem Cultural Conference; Harlem Labor Union; Consolidated Tenants League; Iota Phi Lambda and other sororities; Coordinating Committee Against Profiteering; the Abyssinia Baptist Church; the St. James Presbyterian Church; New York Urban League; Household Guild; National Negro Congress; Workers Alliance, Trade Union Conference; the Communist Party and others.

Mr. Williams is a courageous fighter for Negro rights and feels that this is part of a general offensive against the living standards of all workers and of Negro Workers especially.

Can't Speak Any English, Given Job

Jewish Refugee Replaces Negro as Superintendent of Harlem Apt. Building.

NEW YORK, March 14.—(ANP) — Support of the theory advanced by many Harlem soap-box orators, that Jewish refugees are slowly but surely replacing Negro workers here, was bolstered this week when it was learned that George Fox, for 10 years superintendent of a South Harlem swank apartment building, had been replaced by a Jewish refugee who is unable to speak a word of English.

Colored tenants of the high-priced apartments, rents ranging from $105 per month upward, were up in arms over the incident. They have revived a tenants organization in order to fight what they term the "summary of unwarranted dismissal" of Fox.

The refugee, Sidney Petchers, had been superintendent of the house next door but now is in charge of both buildings. Fox was given a three-day notice to vacate his apartment and position.

Both buildings were formerly owned by the Bowery Savings Bank but were recently sold to Elvia Rothman of the Bronx.

F. D. Asked to Stop Discrimination in Plane Factories

NEW YORK. — President Roosevelt was asked last week by the NAACP to issue an executive order or request Congress to enact legislation prohibiting job discrimination in airplane and armament plants before action is taken on his billion-dollar defense program.

The request said in part: "There has been and is considerable discrimination against skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled colored labor in many of these plants. Such discrimination should be abolished completely at a time of national peril like this."

NAACP Opposes New York Contract With Lily-White Subway Engineers' Union

Courier 4-6-40

Pittsburgh, Pa.

NEW YORK, April 4.—The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People notified the New York City Board of Transportation Thursday, March 28, that it will appear before the board in opposition to the city's entering into a closed shop agreement with subway workers who are members of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, an A. F. of L. union, on the ground that this union has a constitutional provision barring Negroes from membership.

The union, which has 1,400 members (motormen) who work on New York subways, is one of two subway unions which recently won a victory when Mayor LaGuardia announced that he would recommend to the transportation board that it assume "all terms and conditions" in contracts between the BMT and the IRT subway systems and labor unions, when the city takes over these lines May 1 under the unification plan. Both the Brotherhood and the Transport Workers' Union, the latter with a membership of 27,000, have closed-shop contracts which do not expire until June, 1941.

Prior to a conference between representatives of the two unions and the mayor, LaGuardia had said that the city would permit an open-shop, no-strike operation of the unified subway lines, under the jurisdiction of the city. The N. A. A. C. P. sent the mayor a telegram while the conference was in session, urging the consideration of discriminatory clauses in the Brotherhood's contract which bars Negroes from membership.

Commenting on the action taken by the Association, Walter White,

ORRIS, GEORGIA COOPER — Will you please help me to find my sister, Georgia Cooper Morris, last heard from in Buffalo, N.Y.? She had three daughters, and was formerly from Memphis, Tenn.—James H. Holmes, 1264 Pond St., Memphis, Tenn.

HEPHERD, PINKNEY — Please help me to get in touch with my aunt, Pinkney Shepherd. The last

Accuses New York State Aids Of Discrimination

NEW YORK—Charges that the New York State Employment Service had aided white employers to discriminate against Negroes in job placement were made before a City Council committee this week by Lester Granger, of the Division of Negro Unemployment and Welfare Council.

Granger told the councilmanic committee, set up to "study and report on employment agencies and other facilities to aid the unemployed in obtaining jobs," that Negro citizens "are far from satisfied with the results of placement of Negroes by the State Employment Service."

"A public service must do more than pass on applications and permit discrimination against Negroes as practiced by private employers," he said. "We think state agencies should do missionary work to break down discrimination against minority groups."

Cites Other Victims

He pointed out that while Negroes were hardest hit by discrimination, Italians, Jews and Catholics were also hit by discriminatory practices of many employers.

He struck out at discrimination in many A.F.L. unions, declaring that the practice of excluding Negroes from membership was a factor aiding in job discrimination.

He said that "practically no skilled Negro workers" have been placed through a dozen private Negro employment agencies in this city.

"There has been an unholy collusion between wealthy families and agencies to get young Negro domestics from the South at unreasonably low wages," Granger told the committee.

"In commercial rental establishments it is almost impossible for Negroes to get jobs. One of the largest department stores employs only 175 Negro men. Some of them have college educations but their employment is restricted to operating elevators, janitor work and other such occupations."

At this point Councilman Robert K. Straus, sponsor of the councilmanic investigation and whose family owns and operates the Macy Department St[illegible], shifted the d[illegible]cussion to job placement in Harlem "Didn't the job placement campaign in Harlem get some results?" he asked.

"The Harlem campaign got only 200 jobs," Granger replied, asserting that stories about more than a thousand Negroes being placed were false.

One "Encouraging Factor"

The one "encouraging factor" of the Negro job placement, he added, was the practice of the Municipal Civil Service, inaugurated by Commissioner Paul Kern, of appointing employes to city posts in their order of appearance on the list regardless of race, creed or color.

Anything but encouraging, however, was the testimony of State Industrial Commissioner Frieda S. Miller, who said that during 1939 the State Employment Service registered more than 1,000,000 persons seeking work and placed only 84,475 in private employment.

A.F.L. Union Policy Hit By Social Worker

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He said that "practically no skilled Negro workers" have been placed thru a dozen private Negro employment agencies in this city.

"There has been an unholy collusion between wealthy families and agencies to get young Negro domestics from the South at unreasonably low wages," Granger told the committee.

"In commercial rental establishments it is almost impossible for Negroes to get jobs. One of the largest department stores employs only 175 Negro men. Some of them have college educations but their employment is restricted to operating elevators, janitor work and other such occupations.

One "Encouraging Factor"

The one "encouraging factor" of the Negro job placement, he added, was the practice of the Municipal Civil Service, inaugurated by Commissioner Paul Kern, of appointing employes to city posts in their order of appearance on the list regardless of race, creed, or color.

WAGE BOARD URGED TO PROBE MILL OWNER WHO FIRED WORKERS

DURHAM, N. C., Jan. 4 — Southern textile mill owners are discharging Negro workers and substituting whites in their place rather than pay the former the minimum of thirty-two and one-half cents an hour as required by the Fair Labor Standards Act.

This was the view expressed by officials of the local branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, who have filed a complaint in Washington with Col. Philip Fleming, administrator of the Act.

Replaced by Whites

The complaint, which is directed against the Erwin Cotton Mills of Durham, and filed through the national office of the NAACP in New York includes the affidavits of two Negro women workers at the textile mill, who stated that they were fired from their $10-per-week jobs as cleaners October 13, shortly after the wage increases for textile workers went into effect and their places taken by two white women.

The affidavits also state that all the Negro cleaners in the mill were fired except one, "who works there still cleaning spittoons and toilets."

That at least some of the white employees do not approve of the action taken by the mill owners is indicated by a statement made in the affidavits that these employees have expressed their willingness to "furnish any information they were able," whenever the investigation takes place.

Winston-Salem, N. C. Journal
August 11, 1940

7th Column Of Negroes Is Subject

Randolph W. Johnson, member of the state public welfare department, spoke at Winston-Salem Teachers College on Wednesday, August 7 on "The Seventh Column Among Negroes."

He mentioned the various jobs that Negroes held formerly which are now closed to him. Even the menial jobs such as waitresses, laborers, and trades are no longer jobs which belong to the Negro. He has been pushed from all such occupations and excluded from them. This new force which eliminates Negroes from jobs which formerly could be called theirs, Randolph Johnson calls "The Seventh Column."

In the face of this situation, the Negro teacher can do much to prepare the coming generation for the existing condition. Johnson feels that the Negro teacher can help the young Negro by molding sentiment to help him feel that "honest labor, whatever it is, is honorable." So often Negroes have the idea that professional people and only professional people are the only ones who are worth while.

In this connection he mentioned how young Negro women like to "set their caps" for the doctor or lawyer and think of the bricklayer as just another laborer. He mentioned that young Negroes are not interested in the trade positions and feel that such jobs cause their status to be lowered.

On a certain new building going up on the Duke University campus, there are nineteen stonecutters, sixteen of which are Negroes each making one dollar and sixty-five cents an hour. Each of the Negroes are all over forty-five years of age. Johnson asked the audience, "What is the future of the Negro tradesman?" Unions are closed to Negroes and young men of the race are not interested in the field which is an open one—a field which is extremely promising during this present building boom.

"The seventh column is eating out the heart of Negroes not only in North Carolina but in the whole country."

In so many or most of the cases, the Negro is the "first to be fired and the last to be hired."

Another matter which teachers need to help adjust in their respective communities is the feeling against prisoners who have been freed. In many cases the prisoner is not made welcome in any society, no one has a pleasant word or smile for him, he has no friends, no job. This feeling in many communities causes the prisoner to feel that the only thing he can do is commit another crime and go back behind the bars where he has been mothered for a number of years.

Johnson's plea was that with encouragement, kind treatment, and a helping hand those persons need not have to go back to jail but can become adjusted to right living and even contribute to their environment if they are given a chance.

In closing he emphasized the ideal society where regardless of race, creed or culture, every individual would be able to enjoy the more abundant life.

ASSAIL ORDER AS 'SLAVERY'

OCT 19 1940

Women Reassigned to Outside Labor at $11.10 a Week

CHARLOTTE. N. C. — The Charlotte Labor League, affiliate of Labor's Non-Partisan League, this week protested the ruling of the WPA that Negro women must work out-of-doors with shovels and wheelbarrows or starve.

Negro women have been reassigned to hard outside labor at $11.10 a week and told if they don't like it they could quit. Oscar Dewease, president of the Charlotte Labor League, issued the following statement:

"Common labor for Negro women, light work for white women, has no place in 1940. Such conditions are like slavery days. Organized labor must fight such violations of Negro rights. Women should not be forced to do the work of strong men. We demand decent conditions on WPA for all workers regardless of color, creed or political belief.

"This shameful condition is a disgrace to Charlotte. There can be no national defense until a decent standard of living is provided for Negro and white Americans alike."

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OHIO

Oxley Tells Ohio Laws Needed to Fight Prejudice

COLUMBUS, Ohio—State legislation is the only answer to the problem of discrimination in industry and organized labor, said Lieutenant Lawrence A. Oxley, of the National Social Security Board, at a meeting held in the State Office Building, here recently. 2-4-40

Lieutenant Oxley suggested that Ohio follow the precedents set by New York and Pennsylvania and pass laws against such bias.

Some 200 business, labor, educational, and civic leaders were gathered to discuss the unemployment problems. The NYA, and Ohio Bureau of Unemployment Compensation were represented in the group. Lieutenant Oxley acted as chairman.

D. O. Walker Speaks

Dr. D. O. Walker, Wilberforce president, added that we must learn to sit and discuss our problems dispassionately. "We can demand that public schools be opened to our people," he said, "but we cannot demand that the manufacturer open his door."

A findings committee, headed by S. Burns Weston, NYA administrator, is to prepare a report and submit it to Governor Bricker, who ordered the parley.

Norman Hoodlums Terrorize Oklahoma City Negro Youth Employed on Univ. Campus

Two Car Loads Rush Store While Employees Guard Front and Rear

SEP 21 1940

Mayor, City Officials Offer Protection

The Black Dispatch

NORMAN, Okla.—White students at the University of Oklahoma showed their opposition to ruffiansm here last Saturday, when a group of hoodlums came to the University campus and threatened bodily harm to Perry Fuller, young Langston graduate. While the hoodlums howled on the outside of the place where young Fuller was barricaded, students expressed their disapproval of the un-American tatics being employed to maintain the 40-year old ban placed on Negro employment in Norman.

Oklahoma City

According to young Fuller he had been employed by Steffin's Ice Cream Company as doorman during "Rush Week" at Rickner's Soonerland Hangout, which is located on the campus of Oklahoma University across from the President's home. All went well for several days until one night about nine o'clock Mr. Rickner, owner of the Soonerland, received a call telling him "to get that nigger off that door." Mr. Rickner failed to tell his only Negro employee of that call and all went well until, according to Perry, Saturday evening about 6:15 two car loads of white men drove up to the place and one got out and approached the door, asking for the manager. After the man had been inside for a brief moment, Perry said the manager, Mr. Rickner, rushed out and told him to "get inside quick". Fuller obeyed while Mr. Rickner talked with some of the members of the would-be mob.

Leaders of the bunch said that they didn't want that "nigger" working in Norman when there were unemployed whites who could do the work. Mr. Rickner, is said to have told them that to be fair any man among the group who wanted that job could have it if he would get out of the car and come and put on the uniform. Not one man accepted, but they still contended that Perry should be fired, finally driving away.

SEP 21 1940

Fuller was informed by his employer that he was willing to take the chance of him working there until rush week was over in defiance of the protests, which, according to reports, came not from the students or responsible men of Norman, but from the Pool Hall element, some of whom were intoxicated when they drove up to Rickner's. While Mr. Rickner was talking with the mob, the employees of the tavern were guarding both entrances of the place for the protection of their co-worker.

"I was not afraid" the young college man said in relating the incident. "I was hurt more than anything else." Something needs to be done about the terrible situation at Norman, the educational center of Oklahoma, and if it had not been for the fact that I plan to finish my work on my Master's degree at Iowa University this year, I would have stayed to see the thing through, since Mr. Rickner was ready and willing to give me all the protection he could." Fuller, who has 19 hours toward his Master's in sociology, said that Mr. Rickner called the mayor and other officials of Norman asking for added protection for him, but that they explained they could not send men out to keep a constant watch over the place.

Fuller said that he and the college students "got along well" together and that following the affair, he was presented over the loud-speaker system of tavern to the hundreds of sorority and fraternity students present. "The Masme," Perry said. He told of my ter of Ceremonies over introduced scholastic record and the incident which had just happened and also informed the students that for the protection of Mr. Rickner's place and for the protection of Perry, I would be with them no longer. I thanked him for the introduction and told the students that I was glad to have been able to work as long as I did and that I was really sorry to go, but I had too much at stake to take so great a risk.

Following his short speech, Fuller said that he was cheered heartily and in fact encored, but he left Norman as soon as a Alfred Washington of Okla City came for him in the car.

UPI

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SOUTH CAROLINA

CONTINUE COCA COLA BOYCOTT

S. C. Business Places Acted When Company Displaced Colored Labor with White.

ROCK HILL, S. C., April 25 —(ANP)—Two months have passed and the estimated 55 Negro business establishments in this city are still boycotting the local Coca Cola bottling company. Their boycott began because the Cola Cola company, here, displaced colored labor with white.

It is understood that the plant here has been using colored help on their trucks and in the plant for a number of years but just recently it was found that white customers objected to Negro workmen delivering drinks in their business places, so the Coca Cola company gave as its reason for the displacement, the use of men who can be used both as drivers and salesmen.

South Carolina Business Men Oppose Wage-Hour Bill

CIO Officials Sees Attempt To Inject Race Question In Effort To Defeat Bill In Legislature

Journal & Guide

COLUMBIA, S. C.—A bill now before the South Carolina legislature to regulate hours and pay for all workers not included in the national wage and hour act, would reap benefits for thousands of the state's colored workers, it was pointed out here last week. The proposed bill would fix a thirty cents an hour minimum wage and a 20-hour week for all South Carolina workers except domestics and agricultural groups.

The bill is being sponsored by the politically powerful S. C. League for Progressive Democracy and labor organizations. There is a strong possibility of its passage. The principal opposition is coming from employers who work Negroes, but the CIO and other labor groups are offering to the sub-committee unrefuted proof of the pitifully small wage paid both white and Negro workers in some industries.

In reply to C. N. Hastie one of the opponents of the bill who said, that the State is too poor for such an "experiment," L. E. Brookshire of Greenville, chairman of the S. C. League for Progressive Democracy, said that the best way to keep the State poor is by paying starvation wages to its people.

H. E. McConnell, another young aggressive labor leader, called attention to the fact that the cotton mill owners who fought the national wage and hour act as being their death warrant, are now operating under the act without a single plant closing for that reason. McConnell also said that the wages and hours of waitresses is "most damnable."

One prominent C. I. O. official said, "I am thoroughly disgusted and nauseated to see some of the opponents of this bill trying to inject the race question to defeat its passage."

John S. Cator of Charleston said that hotel employees were a "satisfied group of people" and that bell boys and waiters liked to work long hours in order to get the tips. He said that he spoke only for his hotel (Fort Sumter).

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SOUTH CAROLINA

Fight Closing of WPA Sewing Project For Negro Women in Charleston, S. C.

NOV 16 1940

NEW YORK. —A deliberate attempt on the part of the local administrator to abolish the WPA sewing project for Negro women in Charleston, S. C., while renovating and enlarging a similar project for white women, is being investigated, the NAACP announced Friday. Washington Tribune

Acording to a complaint made by the association's Charleston branch, E. P. Grice, the local WPA administrator closed the sewing project where Negro women are employed, on October 28, and has refused to hold a conference with an NAACP committee, which seeks to reopen this project. Washington D.C.

The complaint states further that about 3000 county sewing projects employing white women have been closed and these women brought into Charleston to work in the enlarged project there. Negro women,, on the other hand, are being sent from Charleston into the rural areas to work in diet kitchens, wherever openings can be had.

Denying that the enlarged project for white women constituted discrimination against Negro women in Charleston, Lawrence M. Pinckney, State administrator for South Carolina, told the NAACP in a letter dated November 5, that the new project was setup in accordance with standards approved in Washington.

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FIRED WORKER CITES UNFAIR LABOR SCHEME

Charges Race Employees Being Robbed of Jobs By Brotherhood

By JAMES H. PURDY, JR.

MEMPHIS, Tenn.—A committee of the International Association of Railway Employees and the Association of Colored Railway Trainmen and Locomotive Firemen was called this week to confer with Atty. Charles H. Houston, of Washington, D.C., for a final decision in taking action against discriminatory contracts made by the white Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen under which Negro firemen were replaced by junior white firemen on the Gulf, Mobile and Northern railroad.

Edward Teague, race fireman on the Gulf, Mobile and Northern railroad filed suit last Monday in the Federal District court for an injunction and $50,000 damages against the white brotherhood for making an alleged secret contract with the road to displace senior Negro firemen. The white brotherhood has claimed the right to make all contracts for firemen on the railroad because the majority of the firemen are white and are members of the brotherhood.

The railroad labor act gives the majority of the workers in any class or shop on the railroads the right to name bargaining reresentatives for all the workers on the railroad in the same class or shop.

The white brotherhood excludes Negroes from membership, but still claims the right to represent them under the railroad labor act. It took advantages of that position to negotiate behind closed doors, the contracts displacing them by white firemen.

Teague claims that this action by the wihte brotherhood was not representative of the Negro firemen; that the law requires the brotherhood to give the Negroes notice and a chance to be heard and to vote before any contracts can be made by the brotherhood under the railroad labor act.

If Teague's case is sustained, it will mean that either the white brotherhood will have to take in Negro workers or they will have to decide on labor policies in open conventions, and not in closed union halls from which Negroes are excluded.

Teague's case is being financed by the International Association of Railway Employees and the Association of Colored Railway Trainmen and Locomotive Firemen.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has already endorsed the suit. Teague is represented by Attorney J. T. Settle of Memphis, and Charles H. Houston and J. Henry Clay of Roanoke, Va. Joseph O. Waddy, of Washington, D. C., and Thurgood Marshall, New York City, N. Y.

"You Can't Work—You Are A Negro

NOV 2 1940

The recent action of San Antonio union craftsmen, of the majority group, in calling a strike to force the discharge of Negro carpenters from the Wheatley courts low rent housing project, simply because they were Negros, affords a stunning and burning example of the viciousness of a racial bias as insidious and destructive as Nazism at its worst, and at the same time, piognantly illustrates why the federal government has at least attempted to guard against this very type of action by including certain stipulations in the housing project contracts let to building contractors.

Contracts for all federal low rent housing projects include a clause which says that, during any four-week period, three and three-tenth per cent of the total payroll for skilled labor must go to Negro mechanics where such workers are available. Because Negroes are usually barred from membership in craft unions, especially in the South, provisions are also made, through certain channels, for qualified workers to secure "work cards", permitting them to work on union jobs, without their being harassed with the fact that they are not union members.

Defying both the letter and the intent of the United States' government's stipuations, the local unionists, mainly, it is hinted, because of the activities and insistence of certain professional unionists, called a strike to be effective almost immediately, if the Negro carpenters working at Wheatley, and, incidentally, the only skilled Race craftsmen on the project, were not fired then and there.

The reason for this action was not because the Race workers were not efficient and capable, not because they were not union members, but because they were Negroes, and it had never been the custom of these union men to work with Negroes!

The contractor confronted with a dilemmia of firing the men and thus violating his contract, or not firing them, and having a strike tie up the construction of the project, appealed to the local housing authority director for an interpretation of the contractor's specifications.

The local director, acting in good faith and to the best of his ability, delivered a temporary interpretation which permitted the contractor to discharge the Negro mechanics. This particular interpretation, unquestionably, was faulty. It has since been withdrawn and revoked, but a few prejudiced-steeped individuals had scored a point, and the Negroes were out, and are still out.

Surely if anything is to be termed un-American, this action is undeniably it. It declares: "You are an American (the most loyal of all Americans), but you are black, and we are not going to let you work, even though you are qualified, even though the government says you should." What could be more conducive to the disruption of national unity, at a time that national unity is needed most, than actions and attitudes like this?

—San Antonio Register

Protest Use of Race Women As Laborers

Journal & Guide
Norfolk Va.

Complaint Made To City WPA Director

DEC 28 1940

(Reprinted from Last Week's Late Edition)

From two sources this week complaints were made against the practice of employing colored women WPA workers on outdoor projects in which they are required to use shovels, push wheelbarrows, and perform other tasks usually performed by men laborers.

The first complaint was contained in a letter to Jerry O. Gilliam, president of the Norfolk Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, from the D. C. Deans Boosters Club, through its recording and corresponding secretary, Archie H. Reyes.

Mr. Gilliam, in turn, addressed an inquiry to the city director of the Works Progress Administration in a letter dated December 14, in which he said that "if this be the condition, we as citizens of the community are wondering why it is that our women cannot be assigned to those positions adaptable and suitable to the feminine sex with no regard to race or color."

"We are very much interested in knowing the types of work offered colored women under your present program," Mr. Gilliam's letter stated. "The letter that you find enclosed was directed to this organization stating that the women mentioned above were engaged in laborious manual work of unloading trucks and pulling up stumps.

"We know further that national government projects under alphabetical signatures offer the types of employment to persons qualified for jobs that they can meet physically, mentally and educationally. The only way that any race can judge impartially in all matters is to subject themselves at least mentally with those with whom they are dealing.

"We don't think that the women of any other race in America, because of their economic condition, would be assigned to similar jobs of working in the city parks. Consequently why shouldn't the Negro women of Norfolk be given the same types of assignment as the women of other races?

"We hope that you will accept this letter in the spirit in which it is sent and that spirit is that of information. We are hoping further that this letter will not jeopardize the jobs of those women but on the other hand some adjustment will be made in this matter."

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WASHINGTON

Employment For Negroes Impossible At Boeings; Conditions Unchanged

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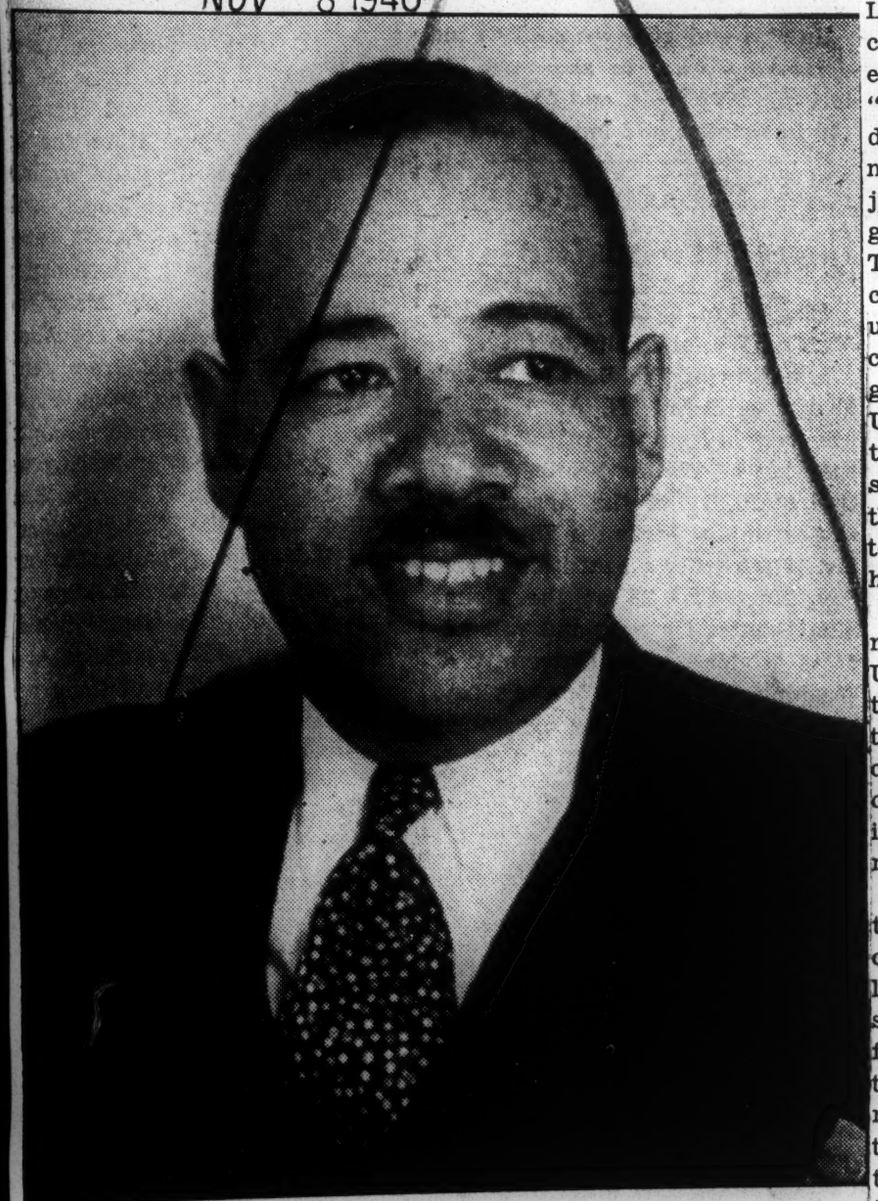

Bernard E. Squires

Discloses secret acts of union to continue exclusion of Negroes

The possibility of Negroes securing employment at the plants of the Boeing Aircraft Corporation is still as remote as ever. It is believed that due to the present conditions it will be even more difficult for the bars to be lowered. These facts were established by recent authentic discoveries by Bernard E. Squires, Executive Secretary of the Seattle Urban League who has been relentless in his efforts to secure opportunity of employment for Negro workers at the Plant.

A resume of the procedure show that the three major excuses given for the exclusion of Negroes have been first broken down and then rebuilt, so that at present the conditions are unchanged.

In recalling the actions of the past we find that a letter from Local 751 of the Aeronautical Mechanics Union to the company dated July 2nd 1940, stated in part, "we are prepared to discuss immediately the question of employment at the Boeing Aircraft Company of competent citizens, regardless of race, creed or color." The company acknowledges the receipt of this statement from the union. It has been said that the company refused to consider Negroes as employees because the Union would not accept them. In this letter and according to the result of repeated conferences with the union representatives, it seems to be indicated that the fight would have to be carried to the Union.

On July 10th the fight was carried to the Executive Board of the Union and on July 11th the matter was presented to a meeting of the general membership. On both occasions the unionists acted favorably upon and accepted motions in behalf of the Negroes employment at the plant.

It was this action or these actions which now show the true color and the underhanded, dirty, low characteristics of the leadership of the local union. It is not felt that the Executive Board or the Leadership of the general meeting, were sincere in thir actions or intentions when these actions were taken. It is indicated that they did so only to strengthen their bargaining power in the negotiation procedure which were being conducted with the company at that time. In short, the Negro was "used" to help gain the present agreement or contract and then "locked out" again by the groups that "used" him to their advantage. This is shown by the following facts.

The local delegates to the International Association of Machinists Convention in Cleveland recently were instructed by their membership **in only one respect.** They were charged with the responsibility of going to the convention and doing all within their power to change the wording of the ritual of the International so that Negroes would not be barred by law from the locals of the union. To this end the delegates had Mr. Squires, Executive Secretary of the Seattle Urban League draw up the resolution which they would present to the Convention.

From reliable sources we are informed that the local delegation did little if anything by way of fighting for the proposed change in the ritual while in attendance at the convention.

To Hell With The Constitution

A detailed report of the consideration of the proposed change, in brief, is as follows: The resolution was shifted from one committee to another and, when finally presented on the floor met with little consideration. A delegate from a southern state made the comment that it is all right for northern locals to consider and admit the Negro as a member and even work with him. However, if such a Negro member, in good standing and with a pass book, comes to the south and tries to enter our meetings, **"Constitution or no constitution, ritual or no ritual, we will kick him out on his—"**

It was then decided that the whole matter should be left in the hands of the Executive Board of the international pending the outcome of trials in New York and Pennsylvania as to whether or not the union can exclude a man on the basis of his race. At the time the decision of these trials the various **Locals of the International shall still retain the right to admit or exclude the Negro worker.**

These incidents indicate clearly that local 751 and other locals have lost sight of the ultimate goal of all organized agencies for collective bargaining and are working only in the interest of their own personal advancement.

It is felt that this selfish attitude is not the desire or ambition of the general membership but is the wish of a few narrow minded and racial leaders or officials of the type in local 751 who came back to the local and **behind closed doors rescinded the motion to admit Negroes which had been passed unanimously by the general membership ot its meeting on July 12th.**

Thus we see that the Negro in Seattle is right where he was and has been for the past 20 years in regard to employment at the Boeing Aircraft Company Plants.

The main front in the present fight must be directed at the Union officials as well as the company officials. In a letter from the personnel director of the plant to Mr. Squires, the statement was made that the company intends "that consideration for employment will be given qualified Negro applicants."

The company can do nothing to realize this intention since the local bargaining agency still refuses to admit the Negro worker to membership.

These actions on the part of the local, as has been said before, are traceable to the narrow and selfish interests of the leadership of the local. The character of that leadership is shown by the large number of trials for misconduct and membership in sbuversive groups being conducted in and by the local at present in connection with the supposed domination of the affairs of the union by members of the Communist Party. These charges were filed by Cliff Stone youthful editor of the Aero Mechanic and a staunch friend of the Negro in his fight for employment thus far.

Now is the time for Negro forces locally and nationally to unite in their efforts to appraise the Company, the National Advisory Commission on National Defense Affairs, the State and National Legislatures and Officials of the damnable exclusion tactics being practiced and the right and necessity of the Negro being included in the present program of developing and adequate National Defense $400,000,000.00 for Defense development in the City and vicinity of the fullest possible extent.

It is his right as an American to be given consideration over and above known Communists in having an opportunity to earn a living this fight to the very end, and Mr. Squires suggests that every race expenditures of nearly

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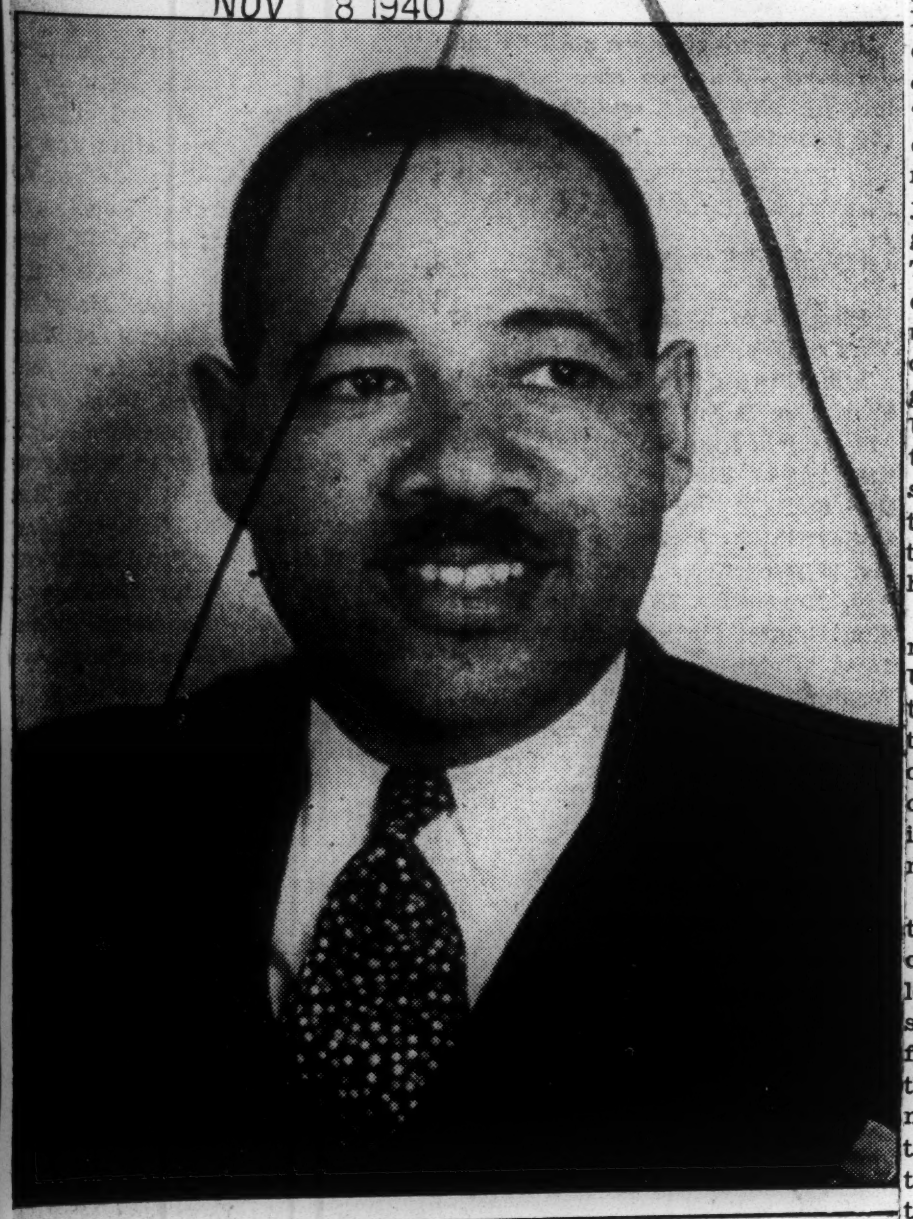

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Seattle
Washington
Northwest
Pete Speer
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Seattle
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DISCRIMINATION

WASHINGTON

Boeing Airplane Company Aided By Union In Discrimination Policy

Members of Union Take Following Pledge Upon Initiation at Each Meeting . . "I Will Not Recommend for Membership . . Any Other than Members of the White Race."

By TED WOOD
Staff Correspondent

SEATTLE, Wash., March 7.—(Exclusive)—The Boeing Airplane company, to which the U.S. Government awarded contracts totaling $8,102,892 in 1939, refuses to employ Negroes solely because of color, it was definitely established this week. After weeks of investigation by a Courier reporter, it was learned that the company's exclusion policy is supported 100 per cent by the Aeronautical Mechanics' Union, Local 751, the company's exclusive bargaining agency.

Proof that the local practices discrimination was established by a pledge which all members of the union must take upon initiation and solemnly repeat at each meeting of the local. The pledge, which was secured from a member of the local reads, "I will not recommend for membership in this union any other than members of the white race."

First efforts to break down the bars of discrimination at the Boeing plant were made last October when Hutchen R. Hutchens applied for a job, first in the personnel in the plant have been unsuccessful.

Unconfirmed reports are to the effect that when the local Labor Relations Board gave the Aeronautical Mechanics' Union exclusive bargaining rights with the company, the company and the union entered into a conspiracy to bar Negroes from the plant. Because of this exclusion policy, it is believed that Negroes have lost an estimated $25,000 in wages.

Reports on the operations of the Boeing Company show that on September 22, 1939, the War Department awarded the Seattle plant an $8,102,892 contract for bombardment planes, type B-17C. The Steamer Aircraft division of the company, located at Wichita, Kan., was awarded $2,843,405 in contracts for training planes, type PT-13B, PT-18 and PT-17 Boeings. The company also had contracts from the Brazilian Air Corporation for $300,000 worth of primary training planes, and an order for nine stratoliners, five for TWA, three for Pan-American Airways and one for an unnamed purchaser.

On October 1, 1939, the Boeing Airplane Company had a backlog of unfilled orders amounting to $26,000,000, and it was to fill these orders that the company set up a training school and began paying apprentices while they learned.

Through joint participation of banks and the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, loan of a working capital of $5,500,000 for the Boeing Company was arranged, R.F.C. committed sixty per cent of the loan and banks, headed by the First National and Bank of Commerce of Seattle committed the balance.

Despite the expansion program and the shortage of trained mechanics and personnel, all efforts to break down the company's discrimination policy have been defeated.

Hutchens, a graduate of the University of Washington, applied for a job in the personnel department, and then later as a mechanic's apprentice. At that time the Boeing Company had launched a program to train additional men and apprentices were paid 55 cents per hour while training. Hutchens, an economics expert and active here in the Labor Movement, had trained white youths who were later hired by Boeing's personnel department. Hutchens, however, was told at the plant that the company did not hire nor train Negroes. Paul Fredickson, of the company's Labor Relations Department, when pinned to the question of discrimination, refused to discuss the matter with Hutchens.

Hutchens then attempted to take the question up with H. A. Lundquist, business agent for the Aeronautical Mechanics' Union, only to learn that the union also discriminates against Negroes. Several attempts since then to place Negroes

PRESSURE ON UNIONS

Special to The Courier
By TED WOOD

SEATTLE, Wash., March 21—In the third serious labor dispute growing out of discrimination here, four Negroes accepted a month's pay and submitted to discrimination by the operators of the Steamship Diamond Cement, and the members of the Marine Cooks and Stewards union.

The ship was tied up in the docks here for 24 hours after complaints were made to the Marine Cooks and Stewards union that members of the engineering crew refused to sail on the same boat with Negroes because they would have to use the same lavatory used by the colored mess boys.

Harry Hugler, W. L. Miller and Sidney Boyd and Charles Hutchinson, the four men involved, ended the dispute by accepting a month's pay and permitting the boat to sail. Officials at the union hiring hall told The Courier a show-down on the discrimination issue could have been forced had the four men refused to accept the money.

It is believed that the compromise leaves a loophole through which other ships or unions can discriminate against Negro sailors. Harry Nichols, patrolman at the hall, said there was nothing the union could do about this latest incident. He said when men accepted pay rather than hold the Diamond Cement in port any longer, the case was automatically closed.

LABOR - 1940
DISCRIMINATION

WISCONSIN

Job Drive Forces Plant To Hire Three Negroes

Daily Worker
New York, N.Y.

Milwaukee Youth Congress Causes Packinghouse to Break 10-Year Record of Discrimination; CIO Council Backs Campaign

DEC 25 1940

(Special to the Daily Worker)

MILWAUKEE, Wis., Dec. 24.—As a result of the Milwaukee Youth Congress' campaign against discrimination, one of the largest packing houses in this city last week broke a 10-year practice by hiring three Negro workers.

This plant, which for the past 10 years has employed only Negroes who had worked in the plant previously, was visited recently by a delegation from the Youth Congress, protesting the policy of discrimination against Negroes.

A recent meeting of the County CIO Council also tackled the problem of discrimination as one of the chief issues of the day.

Another victory in the fight against discrimination in Milwaukee industry was achieved when a Youth Congress committee, in cooperation with the Allis Chalmers Union (CIO) forced an admission from the Allis Chalmers Corporation that it is a company policy to refuse to employ Negroes, except in the foundry, thus forcing the issue into the open.

LABOR - 1940
DOMESTIC SERVICE

Regardless Of Color Or Collar

George S. Schuyler, well-known Negro author, writing in *The Pittsburgh Courier* on the tribute paid to the chef at West Virginia State College, gives sound advice to Negroes from which white people can also profit. Commenting on the honor paid the Negro chef at the Negro college he said:

Many of our college folk are inclined to be snobbish and to consider themselves superior to Negroes who do not belong to the white-collar group. Although most of our parents were cooks, porters, red caps, janitors and maids, there is a tendency to look down on those who make their living in the service fields. Such a thing as giving a testimonial dinner to a humble, dependable and trustworthy service employe at a Negro college is almost unprecedented. Many white colleges in the South have honored Negro employes for long and honest service, but few Negro colleges.

He added:

At a time when colored folk are wondering how they will hold their own in the field of service against increasing job competition, they can do no better than to study the career of a man like Andrew Wicks. It has been my observation that Negroes' jobs are fairly safe whenever they are efficient, capable and dependable. White people have often said that Negroes are naturally gifted for the field of service, but the truth is that they are no more gifted than any other people, and often less so. Belligerence, bumptiousness, insolence and inefficiency have lost as many jobs for Negroes as any other cause. Men like Mr. Wicks have always had jobs and always will regardless of hard times.

At a time when many young Negroes are graduating from colleges this is straight talk to them from a member of their own race. It is sound talk, too. And there is nothing essentially racial about it. It makes sense for all of us of every race, color, creed, college degree, or white collar or no collar at all.

Eufaula, Ala. Tribune
July 24, 1940

FREE SERVICE FOR SERVANTS

Classes For Domestic Service Employees To Begin Tomorrow Night

All coolred domestic service employees who are 16 years of age or older are eligible to attend, without charge, a series of classes in child care, food preparation, and general house work, according to an announcement made by Supt. T. G. Wilkinson of the Eufaula Public Schools. The classes will be held in the home economics building at the Eufaula High School two nights weekly for a period of 6 weeks. The only class this week will be held Thursday night at 7 o'clock at which time, employees agree will be the most convenient time and nights for future meetings.

This service is offered by the Eufaula Board of Education and promoted by B. G. Mantel of the vocational department of Eufaula High School in cooperation with the state division of vocational education and Tuskegee Institute.

W. K. Allen, colored teacher-trainer from Tuskegee Institute, has been in Eufaula for the past several days training teachers for the classes.

Besides the practical information and demonstrations that will be given in the subjects named, lectures will be given to the employees on body care, good habits, and general health.

All white employers are asked to inform their employees about the classes and request them to attend. Those who can't get to the classes at 7 o'clock may come at a later hour. This service is free.

LABOR- 1940
DOMESTIC SERVICE

U.S. Pensions for Domestics Urged

Wagner Amendment Would Extend Social Security Benefits to 10,000,000

WASHINGTON.

A bill to amend the Social Security Act so as to extend its benefits to 10,000,000 workers, chiefly domestics and farmers, was offered last week by Senator Ribert F. Wagner (Dem., N.Y.).

(EDITOR'S NOTE: It is estimated that 1,000,000 colored Americans are engaged in domestic service and 2,000,000 in agriculture.)

In addition to bringing these workers under the act normal provisions for the first time, the proposed amendments would provide for the establishment of a schedule of values for certain non-cash payments, such as room and board or crop payments, in determining one's wages.

Unemployment Aid Denied

While the bill would provide old-age and survivors' insurance, but not unemployment compensation, to domestic and agricultural workers, the full scope of the Social Security Act would be made to cover some 5,000,000 persons in the following groups, also overlooked in the original act:

Employees of State and local governments, non-Civil Service Federal employees and those in non-profit, religious, charitable and educational institutions, and in enterprises employing fewer than eight persons.

Ordained ministers and members of religious orders, in the regular performance of their duties in such connections, would remain unaffeffeted.

Blow at Inequalities

Senator Wagner, who sponsored the original act five years ago, said that the amendments would make it "vastly more comprehensive and would eliminate the inequalities which now arise because workers frequently lose their insurance when they shift from covered to uncovered employment."

First consideration of the new measure will be by a special subcommittee established by the Senate Committee on Finance to study various phases of social security legislation.

Vicksburg, Miss. Post
November 4, 1940

SERVICE SCHOOL IS EXPLAINED BY LOCAL DIRECTOR

E. Musette Chritian, organizer and director of the Domestic Service Training School, Vicksburg, made a timely appeal to the teachers (negro) of home economics in Mississippi, (meeting in Jackson Friday and Saturday) in the interest of effective training for domestic employees.

Pointing out the fact "that during America's National Defense actions, we can easily do our bit by interesting ourselves in the training of these girls along the lines of cleanliness, health, honesty and sincere effort."

Classes for employed and unemployed girls are held daily (Monday through Friday) from 2 to 4 p. m. and night classes from 7:30 to 9:30 p. m. at the Rowan Civic Center, 609 N. Locust street. Phone 1847. The classes are free. Interested friends furnishing equipment and supplies for practice work. The WPA furnishing two teachers. Carmealette Fulton to teach literacy and Mary Booker-Hughes to assist in the practical training of domestic employees. In keeping with instructions issued in the food and national defense issue of the Consumers' Guide, the Domestic Service Training School will especially emphasize the nutritive value of food for the personal benefit of domestic employees.

Growing Demand For Men Cooks In Private Homes

NOV 23 1940

A survey of applications for colred domestic help received through he Workers Aid Club shows that here is a growing demand for traind men cooks in private homes. Miss Hazel Walker who is in charge of the employment department of the club said that she had received an ncreasing number of calls for men cooks in private homes during the past week. Many of these jobs had o go "begging" because of the few men, who have applied for this type of work. The applications prefer young men between 18-30 years of age with exemplary habits and neatness.

Houston Tex.

The club also had a number of calls this week for cateresses to serve parties and special dinners. Several jobs came in during the week for women to do day work. The files of the club show that the salaries of work vary, depending largely on the employer and the type of person doing the work. Persons who are seeking employment of any kind, are asked to get in touch with headquarters of the club at 419½ Milam St., or phone Preston 5484. Office hours from 8:00 a. m. to 6:00 p. m. daily.

24 WAITERS PUT ON PROBATION IN JOBLESS FRAUD

Chicago Daily Tribune
Chicago Ill.
NOV 27 1940

Twenty-four Negro waiters who were accused of defrauding the state of $1,217 in unemployment compensation funds were placed on 90 days' probation yesterday by Judge Francis Borrelli in License court. They showed proof of having made restitution to the state. Frederick Zazove, assistant attorney general, charged that the waiters worked part time as banquet hall waiters in the Palmer house and failed to report income from other part time jobs. They are among 37 persons against whom similar charges were filed recently. Ten of the remaining 13 have been sentenced to jail, one is dead and two have disappeared.

Negro Losing Hotel Jobs To White Aliens

Atlanta Journal
Atlanta Ga.
NOV 21 1940

Being Replaced All Over Country By Italians And Germans

WASHINGTON. — (ANP) — Old-timers look with dismay upon the passing of Negroes from the hotel scene and deplore their replacement with German and Italian workers in many of the larger hotels and clubs throughout this section of the country.

The latest house to go over to white help is the apartment hotel at 2400 Sixteenth street, one of the oldest and more famous hotels in the district, which in the past has catered to the highest class patronage.

Clubs, hotels, and even railroads are turning to white help resulting in the laying off of hundreds of Negroes and closing to them one of the most lucrative fields of employment, and one which in the past has been regarded exclusively as "Negro jobs".

It is reported that during the coming winter season, the Seaboard Air Line railroad will operate another streamliner in its Florida service. From New York to Columbia, S. C. there will be colored cooks and waiters, but at Columbia the change will be made and white cooks and white waitresses will replace the colored help for the balance of the run—this being the busiest part of the run and where most of the money is made

This change has been contemplated for some time and when first asked about it, officials of the road failed to answer. However, their plans have been quietly made and will be put into effect this season.

DOMESTIC WAGES TOO LOW, LITTLE ROCK STUDY FINDS

the call

DEC 6 1940

LITTLE ROCK. — A study of wages offered domestic help by 223 prospective employers at the Urban League Employment office during a six months' period of 1940 disclosed that 89 employers would discuss the amount of the wage only with the applicant, and that the proffers of the remaining 134 ranged $2 and $5, the average being $3.86.

Kansas City

Most of these positions provided meals, and about half of them sleeping quarters. Duties covered the entire range of household activities.

The average ($3.86) shows a slight increase over the average disclosed by a study made in 193[illegible] ($3.74). The number paying $2 or less shows a decrease, and the number paying $5.50 or more shows an increase.

Apparently this increase in the average and slight heightening of the limits of the range is caused by conferences between the placement department of the Urban League and some of the employers.

Clifford E. Minton, executive secretary of the League, said that "the relation of these low wages to the economic status of the workers, and the effect that they have on the morals, health, and general outlook of 75 per cent of the employed Negroes is left for your interpretation."

mo.

"Seventy-five per cent of the Negroes in America make their living in domestic and personal service jobs. Through the Urban League, we are endeavoring to improve the efficiency of workers, and to secure better wages for them.

Plan Social Security For Domestics

Philadelphia Tribune

Phila. Pa.

Social Security Group Plans Bill To Include Farm Workers

DEC 2 6 1940

WASHINGTON (ANP)—From authoritative sources it is learned that the social security board of the Federal Security agency, is planning to adopt certain recommendations and features concerning the coverage of domestic and agricultural workers, now not included under the act.

Before Congress now are two bills, one in the Senate sponsored by Senator Wagner of New York, and one in the house sponsored by Rep. McCormick of Massachusetts, providing for the protection of these workers under the Social Security act.

Determined to obtain first hand information, it is reported that a survey is being conducted, or contemplated by the social security board in a large eastern city to determine just what can be done and the best coverage possible under existing circumstances.

It is further reliably reported that the board is endeavoring to assemble as competent a staff of workers from its own rolls to conduct the survey as is possible to get together. With this in view, the results of the survey are sure to give the board some definite information on the wide variance of working hours, wages, conditions under which domestic work, and other factors necessary to determine procedure.

Much agitation has been brought to bear in the past on the failure of of the act to cover the largest number of colored workers in the country since more Negroes are employed in the domestic and agricultural fields than in any others. This move will prove more beneficial to Negroes, if it is carried out, than many previous acts legislated and is one which will gain the full support of the individuals to be investigated for coverage.

——A Colored Judge——

Bronx Slave Markets Called Undemocratic At Women's Meeting

New York Age

New York, N.Y.

DEC 21 1940

Branding the "slave markets," the more familiar term for the outdor domestic employment custom in the Bronx and Brooklyn, as an "undemocratic and degrading economic prenomena" and a "shameful condition" Winifred Norman and Thelma Dale, Youth organization representatives, scored the administration which allows the possibility of this "vicious situation" in keynote speeches of panel discussions at the last weekend Conference of Young Women.

Young women of all races and most of the working and social service situation, organized and unorganized, in the New York area gathered to discuss and plan action on the problems peculiar to the young women of America and occasioned by the recent "Conscription." Arguing that the draft of the young men, has "changed the face of things" for the young women in employment, living and social relations more than 2,000 girls and young women gathered December 13, 14 and 15 at the Riverside Plaza Hotel, 73rd street and Broadway for a conference. The problems of the Young Negro Women were conceded great importance and the larger portion of the discussion period to the details of what The New York Age almost a decade ago termed "The Bronx Slave Market."

Miss Norman, vice president of the Harlem Youth Council, in her speech described the recent survey report which her organization had prepared and submitted to Frieda Miller, Industrial Commissioner of New York State, on the "slave-market" where the domestic worker, caught in the economic maze of street-corner barter of her services must submit to the injustice of being "poked and felt" so that her employer may ascertain the number of floors she is strong enough to scrub and then gets the "clock turned back" lengthening her two hours into three or four. does not even achieve the $5 or $7 the agency engaged workers get. Frequently there are children and other dependents who must be fed and clothed—if the woman gets paid.

The panel discussions provided more instances of the practice and at the end a comprehensive resolution, drafted by Miss Norman, was adopted by the Conference for action to demand state legislation obliterating the "slave market."

Raleigh, N. C., News & Observer
June 7, 1940

Regardless Of Color Or Collar

George S. Schuyler, well-known Negro author, writing in *The Pittsburgh Courier* on the tribute paid to the chef at West Virginia State College, gives sound advice to Negroes from which white people can also profit. Commenting on the honor paid the Negro chef at the Negro college, he said:

Many of our college folk are inclined to be snobbish and to consider themselves superior to Negroes who do not belong to the white-collar group. Although most of our parents were cooks, porters, red caps, janitors and maids, there is a tendency to look down on those who make their living in the service fields. Such a thing as giving a testimonial dinner to a humble, dependable and trustworthy service employe at a Negro college is almost unprecedented. Many white colleges in the South have honored Negro employes for long and honest service, but few Negro colleges.

He added:

At a time when colored folk are wondering how they will hold their own in the field of service against increasing job competition, they can do no better than to study the career of a man like Andrew Wicks. It has been my observation that Negroes' jobs are fairly safe whenever they are efficient, capable and dependable. White people have often said that Negroes are naturally gifted for the field of service, but the truth is that they are no more gifted than any other people, and often less so. Belligerence, bumptiousness, insolence and inefficiency have lost as many jobs for Negroes as any other cause. Men like Mr. Wciks have always had jobs and always will, regardless of hard times.

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LABOR- 1940
DOMESTIC SERVICE

SEABOARD TO HIRE WHITE WAITRESSES

Pittsburgh Courier

Pittsburgh Pa SEP 14 1940

NORFOLK, Va., Sept. 12. (ANP)—The Seaboard railway, whose general offices are located here, is rumored to be preparing to operate its Silver Meteor dining cars with white waitresses as an early date. This is the streamlined all-deluxe coach train that Seaboard put in service between New York and Miami, Florida, two years ago. Hauled by Diesel engines, Silver Meteor is highly appointed in every respect. Its crew personnel includes white stewardesses-registered nurses.

Negotitaing a working agreement for dining car cooks and waiters in 1938 with the A. F. of L. dining car union, Seaboard management accomplished a seniority rule which prevents any colored cook or waiter not then already five years in service from accumulating seniority after reaching the age of 32 years. Such an arrangement would enable the railway company to avoid a seniority rule that could prevent use of new white employes.

Charleston S. C. News & Courier
October 7, 1940

NYA Here Will Train Girls for House Jobs

New Center for Negroes to Be in Operation at Shaw Building Today

A training school for negro servants will be opened today at the Shaw school, according to Harry G. Boyte, area supervisor for the national youth administration.

The girls wlil be trained in home economics, cleanliness and other parts of housework. They will live at the training center for five days a week, doing all of their own cooking and other routine duties.

Beulah Duval will serve as supervisor and Ann Fields as assistant supervisor.

Similar training was commenced in St. George last week.

Increasing Loss of Seaboard Hotel Jobs To White Workers Viewed With Alarm

OCT 26 1940

WASHINGTON—Oldtimers look with dismay upon the passing of Negroes from the hotel scene and deplore their replacement with German and Italian workers in many of the larger hotels and clubs throughout this section of the country.

Amsterdam News

The latest house to go over to white help is the apartment hotel at 2400 Sixteenth street, one of the oldest and more famous hotels in the district, which in the past has catered to the highest class patronage.

Clubs, hotels, and even railroads are turning to white help resulting in the laying off of hundreds of Negroes and closing to them one of the most lucrative fields of employment, and one which in the past has been regarded exclusively as "Negro jobs."

New York

It is reported that during the coming winter season, the Seaboard Air Line railroad will operate another streamliner in its Florida service. From New York to Columbia, South Carolina, there will be colored cooks and waiters, but at Columbia the change will be made and white cooks and white waitresses will replace the colored help for the balance of the run—this being the busiest part of the run and where most of the money is made.

This change has been contemplated for some time and when first asked about it, officials of the road failed to answer. However, their plans have been quietly made and will be put into effect this season.

Cooks and Maids To Register For Employment Free

Workers Aid Offers Free Job Registration To Unemployed Workers At Institute December 4-5.

NOV 30 1940

Due to increasing demands for experienced colored cooks, maids and porters, at the Workers Aid Club, a booth will be provided at the Domestic and Industrial Workers Institute, December 4 and 5, for this class of workers either unemployed or seeking better jobs, it was announced by C. W. Rice, chairman.

Negro Labor News

The registration booth will open at 2 p. m. Wednesday at the Educational building of the Mt. Vernon Church, Jensen Drive and Burnett, and all unemployed domestic workers who can furnish reference may register free. Applications will be placed on the list of the employment department of the Workers Aid Club, 419 1-2 Milam Street. Registrants will be asked to remain through the cooking school.

Houston Texas

Prizes

Mrs. Lena Dudley, chairman of the prize committee, announced that many valuable prizes in cash, merchandise and wearing apparel will be awarded for attendance and various contests. The major prize will be a "beauty-comfy" matress for a full side bed furnished by the Holland Amdur Furniture Company, 418 Louisiana.

Mamie Cox, 'Maid' To Late Marie Dressler, Welcomed Royally By Hollywood's Stars

Despite Passage of Time, Mrs. Cox, Who Persuaded Star to Cast Her Lot in Hollywood, Is Remembered By Generous, Helpful Friends.

Pittsburgh Pa.

By RUBY BERKLEY GOODWIN

HOLLYWOOD, Calif., Oct. 3.—Mamie Cox, who for 20 years served as personal maid and companion to the late Marie Dressler, came back to Hollywood to pay her annual visit to the crypt at Forest Lawn where her benefactress lies buried.

OCT 5 1940

When she came back to the film city she was met by many of filmdom's greatest personalities. Executives, producers, stars, technicians on the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer lot rushed out to shake her hand and to bid her welcome back to Hollywood.

Hollywood has never forgotten the story of Marie Dressler and Mamie Cox, and in a town where sincerity and true friendship is so highly prized, Mamie Cox stands ace high.

GAVE DRESSLER TO HOLLYWOOD

She gave Hollywood Marie Dressler! For when Broadway had turned its back on the fine actress and was bowing in adoration before its bevy of "It" girls, Mamie Cox persuaded Marie Dressler to come to Hollywood. Marie Dressler was broke, so Mamie and Jerry Cox gave her $4,500 to come to Hollywood and put up a front.

Mamie worked still in the capacity of maid, while Jerry Cox drove the actress about.

A small part in "Broadway Melody' 'landed Marie Dressler a role in "Anna Christie." In this picture she stole the show from the glamorous Greta Garbo and a new screen personality was born. America took Marie Dressler to its heart and there she stayed until she slipped quietly away from this life a few years ago.

Interview

"CAST YOUR BREAD UPON THE WATERS"

Then it was that the world learned again the truth of the old saying, "Cast your bread upon the waters." Mamie and Jerry Cox had loaned Marie Dressler $4,500. Marie Dressler had left Mamie and Jerry Cox $40,000 in cash, valuable art objects, priceless dishes and silver.

OCT 5 1940

Friends in Hollywood asked Mamie and Jerry to stay out West. Friends in New York wanted the couple to come back to the big town to live. Mamie, remembering a promise she made to her mother just before she passed away, went to Savannah, Ga., her birthplace.

Pittsburgh

Here she built a large eight-room residence for her and Jerry, purchased six and a half acres of ground and started building auto courts for the exclusive use of Negro tourists. When asked why she did not cater to white tourists, since they could pay more, Mamie smiled and had ready a very wise reply.

Pa

WANTED TO HELP RACE TOURISTS

"You know," she said softly, "I have traveled a great deal. I know how difficult it is for our people to find decent lodgings when they are traveling. I determined that if ever I was able, I would do something about that."

OCT 5 1940

She has. The cabins at Cocoanut Grove are the finest for Negroes anywhere in the country. They were erected entirely by Negro artisans with the exception of the air conditioning system and some intricate tiling.

Interview

MARIE'S FRIENDS ARE HER FRIENDS

Pittsburgh

Wherever she goes she is accorded the welcome of a celebrity. All of the friends of the late Marie Dressler feel hurt if Mamie does not call on them when she comes to Hollywood. Liveried chauffeurs call for her; studio productions are stopped while the cast and stars gather about here to shake hands and talk over old times. Hollywood always has the welcome mat out for Mamie Cox!

Pa

Birmingham, Ala., Age-Herald
August 28, 1940

SESSIONS PLANNED FOR NEGROES HERE

T28

The Negro division here of the National Association of Domestic Employes will hold three "supper service" assemblies this week at Sixteenth Street Baptist Church, Sixteenth Street and Sixth Avenue, South, beginning tonight, A. A. Hebert, New Orleans, president of the national organization, said yesterday.

The meetings will open at 8 p.m. and will continue through Friday. The sessions, Hebert said, will stress improved sanitation in the handling of food, prevention of food waste and more efficient serving.

Doctors, health officers and food experts will give lectures at each of the three meetings, he said. Theories of oven and surface cooking will be explained.

Hebert appealed to employers of domestic help, in the interest of increased efficiency and sanitation, to encourage attendance of their employes at the meetings.

Honored Retired Car Waiter

Atlanta, Ga

R. G. Robinson (left), superintendent of the Pennsylvania Railroad's dining car department congratulates Stephen R. Aspinall, veteran Negro waiter on the "Congressional Limited," at party held on board the train's diner recently to mark this employee's retirement after 44 years of service.

Mr. Aspinall, who has served Presidents Wilson, Coolidge, and Hoover, as well as many other statesmen and celebrities, was presented with a handsome cake bearing 44 candles while dining car officials and members of the train crew look on.

LABOR

LABOR- 1940
DOMESTIC SERVICE

Richmond, Va. News-Leader
June 29, 1940

Home Makers' Project Graduates Twenty

Two of the graduating students show Mrs. Zetta W. Burdette, supervisor of the project, that they have mastered the art of waffle making.

Another graduating student is showing Mrs. Thomas W. Smith, a visitor at the project, that she can serve the waffles the others have made. [Dementi photos]

Class Receives Homemakers Certificates

Classes in cooking, bed making, flower arrangement, cleaning and menu planning over, twenty young Negro girls yesterday were the proud recipients of certificates from the home makers project of the Works Project Administration.

These girls who have worked for the past twelve weeks learning necessary things about the fine art of housekeeping heard W. A. Hall, of the Urban League, speak on "The Value of Efficiency in Work in the House," and proudly received their certificates from Leola Burford, senior instructor, while Mrs. Zetta W. Burdette, project supervisor, proudly watched the latest class of graduates who went out to work or to hunt for jobs. Approximately 200 girls already have received similar training and been placed in jobs from this project. The fact that the girls do learn and do get good jobs is attested by the long waiting list for the next session which begins on July 8.

Commencement was held at 8 West Cary Street, an old house that has been fixed up to house the project. Here are two kitchens, a laundry, model bed and dining rooms and a living room where the girls practiced what their instructors preached. All the teachers are Negroes who work under the supervision of Mrs. Burdette and her assistant.

A series of lectures by speakers from civil organizations and from agencies is given during the year to give the girls reasons for the stress placed on personal hygiene and general cleanliness. But lectures play only a small part in the work of the course.

"Learning by Doing" is the watchword and the girls actually plan, cook and serve meals, wash and iron, clean, operate electrical equipment, answer phone and door bells, take messages, make beds and clean.

Eight of the class already have jobs. The other twelve will be placed. Mrs. Burdett's office at the house on Cary Street already has received a number of applications and works to see that employers and maids are satisfied.

50 Chefs And Stewards Wanted With Pay Up To $275 Monthly

8-10-40 Courier

WASHINGTON, D. C., Aug. 8—Edwin W. Jones, white, director of the District Employment Center, who dismissed Harry S. McAlpin, $2,300-a-year supervisor interviewer, during charges of discrimination in the set-up, announced last week that there are 50 jobs open for colored in connection with the National Defense Program.

Pittsburgh, Pa.

The official explanation of Mr. McAlpin's dismissal was "unsatisfactory rating." However, he was summarily ordered out when he spread the word regarding an order for 300 "white qualified workers" in which the Civil Service Commission denied it designated race. Insertion of the designation was attributed to the center's officials.

Mr. Jones stated that he has been authorized to select and refer 50 colored stewards for construction cantonments and camps within the continental United States.

SALARY RANGES TO $275

The men selected must be highly experienced in the purchase and preparation of food in quantity. Stewards or chefs with hotel and dining car experience should be well qualified, in the opinion of Mr. Jones.

The salary scale ranges from $168 to $275 per month according to the size of the cantonment to which the individual stewards are assigned. The jobs are outside of the Civil Service.

Selection and referral of the applicants will be made by the hotel-restaurant division of the Public Employment Center, 505 K street, Northwest, daily except Saturday from 8:30 a. m.-4:30 p. m.

Minimum Wage Scale Set For Hotel Employees

The Playmdealer 8-2-40

NEW YORK July 2. — (ANP) — Minimum cash wages of 26 cents an hour for waitresses, 35 cents for chambermaids and bath maids and 36 cent for other woman and minor employee in all-year hotels, who do not receive meals or lodging, were recommended unanimously by the Hotel Minimum Wage Board under the Minimum Wage Law, it was announced last week.

Kansas City Kansan

The following changes are applicable, according to number of meals received by workers, 3 cents less per hour if employee received one meal a day and 6 cents less an hour if the employee receives two or more meals a day.

Residential employees in allyear hotels in New York City are to receive $10 a week if room and board is given and $13 if room only is included.

Public hearing to discuss the findings of the Hotel Wage Board will be held in Buffalo on August 20; Syracuse, August 21; Albany, August 26 and New York, August 27, before the order establishing the new minimum is officially promulgated under the law.

Veterans of Hotel Service

Chicago Sunday Tribune Sept. 1, 1940

The Chicago Beach hotel's two veteran employes congratulate each other on their unusual lengths of service. Joseph "Garfield" Walton, 3534 Drexel avenue, began his job as doorman in 1902 and has one of the longest service records of any doorman in the United States. William Cook, 4422 Vincennes avenue, has been working in the hotel for 34 years, 32 years of which were spent waiting on table. [TRIBUNE Photo.]

Negro Porter In State Health Office Is Dead

Constitution 8-9-1940 Atlanta, Ga.

Alex Sutton, 65, Succumbs as Result of Fall Thursday.

No longer will that familiar query "Where's Alex" be heard around the State Department of Public Health.

For the man who inspired it, Alex Sutton, 65-year-old Negro porter, died Saturday as the result of a fall Thursday.

Alex went to the department as a porter in 1912 and had been there since. In point of service, only one other man in the department outranked him.

He was native of Wilkes county where his parents worked on the plantation of the father of City School Superintendent Willis A. Sutton.

Funeral services for the aged Negro will be conducted at 3:30 o'clock this afternoon at the Big Bethel church and a delegation of his white friends from the health department, headed by Dr. T. F. Abercrombie and Dr. T. F. Sellers will attend the funeral in a body.

Both Dr. Abercrombie and Dr. Sellers praised the character of the aged Negro.

LABOR- 1940
DOMESTIC SERVICE

NEVER BE LATE' SERVANTS TOLD

Miss Susan Myrick Heard at Opening Of School

Miss Susan Myrick told more than 65 Negro women how to become better servants at the opening of a school for unemployed domestic workers yesterday afternoon.

Sponsored by the local office of the Department of Labor, Georgia State Employment Service, the school is being held in the Georgia Power Company kitchen. It will continue today and tomorrow from 3 to 5 p.m.

Miss Myrick, member of The Telegraph and News staff, urged the class to remember that being on hand when expected is the most important duty of a servant. She also gave advice about other qualities a housewife expects of a cook or maid.

The cooking lesson, given by Miss Nell Woodward, Atlanta, power company demonstrator, followed the lecture by Miss Myrick. Miss Woodward showed how to prepare several vegetables, corn pones, a salad and upside-down cake. Later the food prepared was given to the students.

Organize To Fight 'Slave Mart' In N. Y.

Daily World

NEW YORK—(A N P)—A city-wide movement to wipe out the ill-famed "slave mart" of the Bronx, this city, was launched this week with election of officers of the Citizens Committee for the Improvement of Conditions of Domestic Workers, held at the Bronx YMCA.

Atlanta, Ga.

A survey by a committee of ten dealing with conditions affecting those who obtain their employment by standing on street corners, selling their services to the highest bidders, was embodied in a report which will be submitted to the labor committee which authorized it. Details are being held confidential until the report has been presented to State Labor Commissioner Frieda Miller.

Rev. Elder Hawkins, minister of St. Augustine's Presbyterian church, (white) chairman of the group, told reporters that the movement carried the endorsement of many of the clergymen throughout the city, together with public spirited citizens and welfare workers.

The committee stated that they hoped to provide competent honest help and will demand adequate remuneration for the workers. It is also believed that the movement will promote better understanding between domestic and their employers.

Daily Worker 4-15-40

The so-called "slave mart" has been termed a blot on the city in that they fostered exploitation of domestics, compelling them to work under trying conditions for a mere pittance. Domestic workers, in dire need of jobs, were forced to stand on the street corners in all manner of weather, bargaining with "thrifty" housewives for their labor. Cases have been reported where the worker was paid as low as 15 cents per hour with the employer sometime withholding money for payment of lunches served the worker.

The above committee hopes to establish community employment centers for the protection of employe and employer alike.

Members of the committee mostly include those of the Jewish faith also there are a few Christians numbered among them.

Roanoke, Va., World News
April 16, 1940

Servants

(Charlotte News)

A recent story in The News on the Negro servant problem prompts Edward W. Brice, president of the Clinton College for Negroes—a normal and industrial school at Rock Hill operated on the same lines as the famous Tuskegee Institute in Alabama—to advise us that his institution has inaugurated a course for the training of domestic servants.

The servant problem in the South is not simple or easy of solution. That the general wage level is too low to furnish the Negroes engaged in the trade an adequate living is obvious. However, it is to be said also that many thousands—perhaps the majority—of Southern people who employ servants for full or part time belong to economic levels which in the North do all their own work. They make little money, and must take account of every extra dollar—employ servants precisely because wages are low.

And any general wage increase would certainly drive many of them to doing without servants—thus decreasing employment.

What the solution may be, we do not know. But the Clinton College plan seems a sensible approach to at least one angle of the case. Employers in the upper economic brackets can afford to pay wages better than the average have generally paid them even for half-efficient servants. And given an opportunity to secure fully trained and efficient servants many of them will certainly be willing to pay in proportion.

Domestics To Hear John Hope II At Six P. M. Today

Daily World

The Phyllis Wheatley branch of YWCA, 218 Boulevard, N. E. will be the scene of an interesting meeting when John Hope, II, addresses Atlanta's domestic and personal workers this evening at 6 p. m.

Centering his talk around "A Study of Domestic and Personal Servants in Atlanta," Mr. Hope will discuss the problems confronting these workers and their possible solutions. Mr. Hope is professor of economics at Spelman College and recent recipient of a Julius Rosenwald Fellowship. All domestic and personal workers and interested friends are urged to attend this meeting which is the second in a series sponsored by the Industrial Department of the YWCA.

D. C. Domestics Are Victims Of Urban Peonage

Pittsburgh Courier 4-13-40

Negroes In Service Suffer From Long Hours And Small Salaries

WASHINGTON, April (ANP) — "Urban peonage" is the title given to conditions under which the majority of Negroes in service work here. Long hours, poor pay, domineering boses all play a part in the labor situation existing here.

Boarding house proprietors, managers and superintendents of small apartment houses long had employed women to do the menial work around their premises, but with the advent of the wage laws, most women covered by the act were dismissed and men hired in their places.

Working hours are from 6 A.M. to 0 P.M. in some instances and the pay anges from $4.50 per week to $7. No ime off is allowed with the exception of a half day per week. And these workers do practically everything in he house, even to the cooking.

Medic Offers Theory Before White Experts

Says Servants Face More Danger Than Employers On Same Jobs

The danger of maids, cooks and laundresses contracting syphilis from their employers is far greater than that of those same employers getting the disease from persons in their employ.

That theory was advanced by Dr. Wilbur H. Strickland, physician, of 1408 north 21st street, last Monday.

A member of the Academy of Medicine and Allied Sciences, Dr. Strickland was addressing a symposium on syphilis, sponsored by the Academy at Douglass Hospital, Lombard street near 16th, when he challenged the concepts of medical experts that the disease germs were carried into most white homes by colored servants.

Supported in his theory by Dr. Fred D. Stubbs, president of the Academy and G. C. Brannon, a member, Dr. Strickland said:

"Domestics take a greater chance of becoming infected with syphilis when they go into a home to work, than the persons who employ them.

"Servants are forced to handle the clothing their employers wear, and work around articles used by employers. All of these articles could easily contain syphilis germs," Dr. Strickland continued.

Hits Popular Fallacy

He also scored what he termed the popular fallacy that Negroes are more susceptible to syphilis infection than whites.

"We hear more about Negroes being infected with syphilitic germs than we do about whites, because white people can better afford to pay for private treatment. Private practitioners very seldom reveal the number of syphilis cases they treat," he concluded.

The popular belief that syphilis germs originated in Negroes was held "untrue" by Dr. Herman Beerman, white, of the Department of Dermatology and Syphilology of the University of Pennsylvania Hospital. He commented on papers read by three members of the Academy.

"There is an old story that Columbus and his sailors carried the syphilis germ back to Europe after he discovered America," Dr. Beerman said. "That is untrue, because medical history tells us that the germ was brought to this country by white immigrants from Europe," he revealed.

A paper on the diagnosis of syphilis was read by Dr. Daniel B. Taylor, of the Mercy Hospital staff. Dr. Norborne E. Bacchus, chief of the State Syphilis clinic at Douglass Hospital, read a paper on the treatment of syphilis. Pre-natal care of syphilis was discussed by Dr. Helen C. Hickens, obstetrician at Douglass.

Other speakers were: Dr. Milt White, chief of the State Syphilic c nics; Dr. John P. Turner, chief Douglass Hospital staff; and Drs. A. West, Stubbs, Brannon, Arthur Th mas, DeHaven Hinkson, R. W. Hen Thomas Georges, and Walter F. Je rick.

Atlanta Ga Constitution
April 21, 1940

Georgia Servants Are the Best

THE south has more gracious living than anywhere else in the world and Negro servants are the prime factor in our pleasant southern way of life.

When the south's Negro servants are rated tops by a world traveler, author and big game hunter, who was born in Indiana, and is a southerner only by adoption, none can say he is influenced by the pride of birth and heritage.

Edison Marshall, who spends five months out of every two years away from his homes in Augusta, Ga., and Perry, Fla. seeking material for his stories knows servants of all races from the far corners of the earth. And Mr. Marshall considers our Negro cooks the best in the world, and declares that a good southern cook, who still carries on the artistry inherited from the "good old days," are superior to the much talked about German, French, Hungarian or Chinese cooks.

Such sectional delicacies as baked old ham, fried spring chicken with fried mush, barbecued lamb and pig, Brunswick stew, shortenin' bread, batter cakes, beaten biscuit, Sally Lunn, and hot buttermilk biscuit are some of the foods that have won fame for the black ruler of the southern kitchen, he says.

Food alone doesn't make for the easy, delightful way of life Mr. Marshall has found among southerners. He is of Vermont stock, and was educated in Oregon. He came to the Deep South first in 1918, when he was stationed in an army camp near Augusta, Ga. It was then the big game hunter met and married a pretty canteen worker Agnes Flythe, of Augusta, and it was then, too, that he first had a taste of what he terms the "gaiety and joyousness" of southerners which he considers more marked here than in any other section or race.

After living in Oregon for several years, where Edison Jr. and Nancy were born, the Marshalls came back south and lived for a while in Beaufort, S. C., then finally settled down in Augusta in beautiful "Seven Gables."

It is here that Mrs. Marshall carries out all the best traditions of the old south, and ideals of the new. The home at Perry, Fla., is used for a vacation home, where fishing and hunting are enjoyed.

Mr. Marshall has observed that his Negro house servants are the best to be found, and the most gentle and pleasant in their service. Mr. Marshall also contends that the south is the only place where master and servant can be as intimate as they are here without the intimacy becoming disagreeable to one or the other of the parties.

But one of the greatest contributions of the Negro to southern life, Mr. Marshall thinks, is his romantic folklore, his picturesque speech, his inborn music, and his devout religion.

Other and highly important contributions to our delightful living, as Mr. Marshall sees it, are the scattered population—the small town and rural life more conducive to leisurely living than life in a city, a life that cultivates a spirit of friendliness, peace and security, and one of service and loyalty rarely demanded in a large metropolis; the beauty and lushness of the trees and vegetation—fragrant magnolias, stately palms, live oaks with moss; the lazy rivers, and the soft, mild climate.

But, most of all, it's the people with gentle, easy ways, and because Mr. Marshall is a writer seeking stimulating contacts, he frankly states that he cannot live among dull company. And has moved to the south for good.

Suffolk, Va., News-Herald
May 3, 1940

Food For Thought

rvants

Charlotte News

A recent story in The News on the Negro servant problem prompts Edward W. Brice, president of the Clinton College for Negroes—a normal and industrial school at Rock Hill operated on the same lines as the famous Tuskegee Institute in Alabama—to advise us that his institution has inaugurated a course for the training of domestic servants.

The servant problem in the South is not simple or easy of solution. That the general wage level is too low to furnish the Negroes engaged in the trade an adequate living is obvious. However, it is to be said also that many thousands—perhaps the majority—of Southern people who employ servants for full or part time belong to economic levels which in the North do all their own work. They make little money, and must take account of every extra dollar—employ servants precisely because wages are low.

And any general wage increase would certainly drive many of them to doing without servants— thus decreasing employment.

Dalton, Ga., News
July 11, 1940

Domestic Servant In The Homes

Communicable diseases, those diseases which are catching, are spread from one human being to another. The venereal disease, syphilis and gonorrhea, are very definitely communicable.

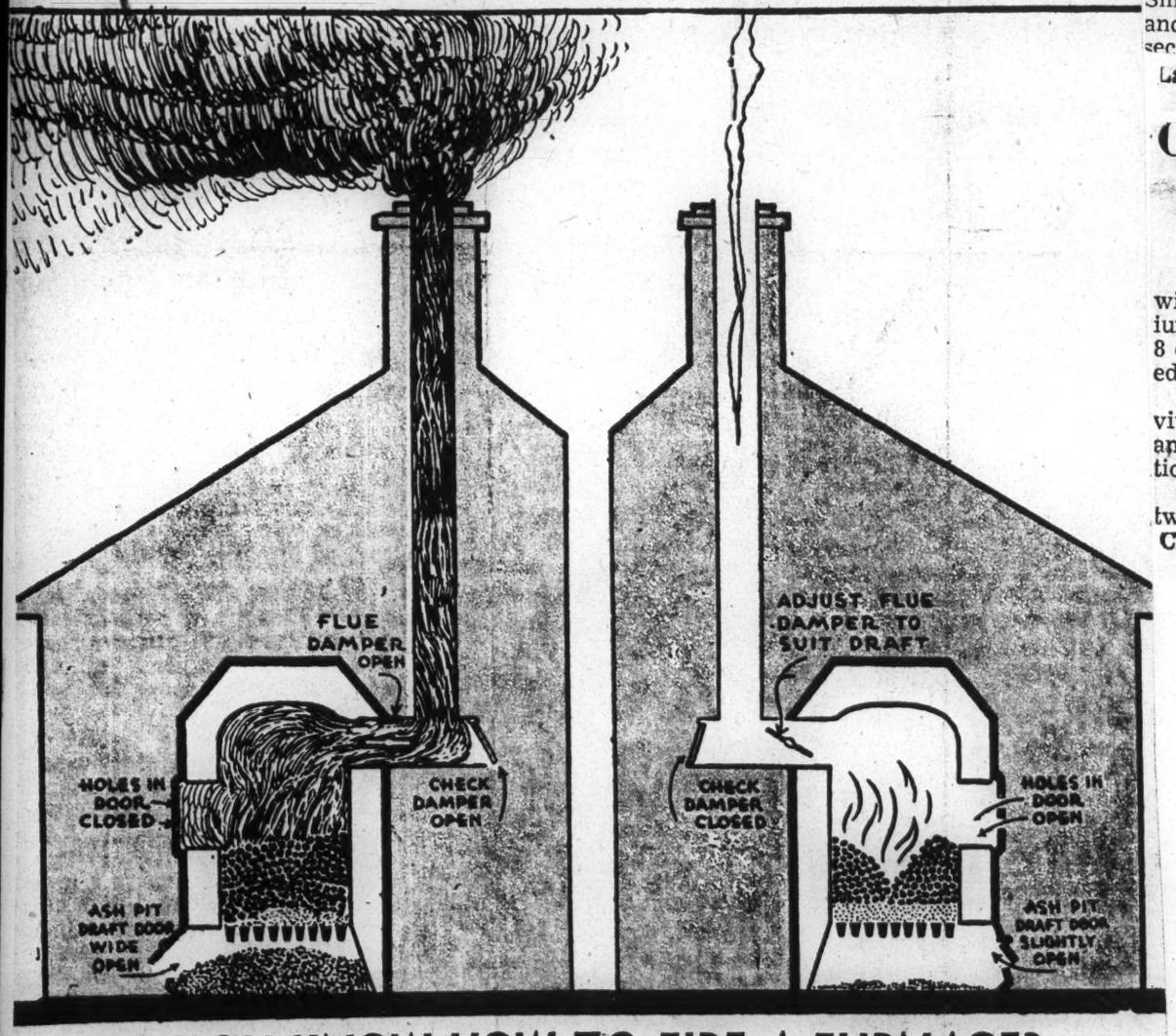
Community life, such as exists today, brings more people into contact with each other than at any other time in our history. Rural population has been concentrated due to modern transportation. Health services in Georgia are attempting to do all in their power to protect these centers of population, and the city dweller and the farmer benefit in a very direct manner by this broad public health coverage.

In our homes, however, we have servants working for us who are coming into direct contact with members of our families many times a day. They prepare our food, they serve our meals, they care for our children. Have we ever stopped to ask ourselves whether there is any possibility of our catching some disease from them? Do they have tuberculosis, syphilis, or gonorrhea? This is not a subject to cause worry, but a problem to be faced and answered. Your Whitfield County Health Department and your family physicians can answer these questions safe; it is too much of a risk to take not to have it safe.

Syphilis among the Negro race is a common disease. We believe that it is the responsibility of the head of every family to find out whether or not his servants have this disease. How is it done? Your Whitfield County Health Department or family physician can take blood test. What if the servant has syphilis? Then there are some simple rules to follow: (1) Do not discharge the servant; (2) See that the servant takes treatment as often, as regularly, and as long as the physician tells you it is necessary. This is such a simple matter, and is surely an easy way to safeguard yourself and your loved ones from syphilis, and you will be helping your servant to be healthy.

LABOR- 1940
DOMESTIC SERVICE
Atlanta, Ga. Journal
January 14, 1940

THE ATLANTA JOURNAL



DO YOU KNOW HOW TO FIRE A FURNACE?

It's really a simple matter if you understand it. If you don't, it's a pretty messy task, and expensive, too, because you lose most of your fuel in smoke. Drawings illustrate the wrong (left) and right methods. Accompanying story gives the details.

Drive Against Smoke Extends Throughout Atlanta Area

Co-operation of cities and communities throughout the metropolitan Atlanta area in the smoke abatement drive was sought Saturday while janitors in the city volunteered for new studies of correct furnace-firing methods.

Councilman John A. White drafted a resolution calling upon officials outside of Atlanta, in Fulton and DeKalb Counties, urging them to co-operate with a special committee of engineers who will seek means of reducing the smoke nuisance.

The resolution will be forwarded to the Mayors of East Point, College Park, Hapeville and Decatur, and to the Fulton and DeKalb County commissioners.

"This is a mutual problem of everybody in the entire metropolitan area," he said. "And I am sure that the people in the suburban communities are just as anxious to do something about it as are Atlantians."

The councilman said he is convinced that "at last something is going to be done about smoke."

"We are going about it in the right way," he said. "The Mayor has appointed a fine committee of engineers, and a definite program, I am sure, will be offered as a result of their studies."

The Janitors' Association, composed of the most progressive of those who tend Atlanta furnaces, planned a special session on smoke next Wednesday night. The drive will be supervised by the Atlanta Urban League. Many of the members already have qualified for licenses by completing a special course for firemen.

J. L. Dobbs is president and Rufus Johnson secretary of the group.

Literature for the firing course has been obtained from City Smoke Inspector A. W. Jones, and a special instructor will be secured.

Lakeland, Fla., Ledger & Star Tele
January 11, 1940

Cooking School Is Open For Negroes

A cooking school for negroes will be conducted in their auditorium tonight and tomorrow night at 8 o'clock, with prizes to be awarded, it was announced today.

Housewives of Lakeland are invited to send their kitchen servants to the meetings for instruction in electric cookery.

No charge will be made for the two sessions.

Charleston, S. C. News & Courier
February 13, 1940

Night Cooking School For Negroes to Open

Women Invited to Domestic Service Class, Opening Tonight at Burke

An evening cooking class for negroes will be inaugurated at the Burke's Industrial school at 8 o'clock tonight. This opportunity for women to learn the newest and best methods of preparing food, is being offered by the city school board working in conjunction with the state department of education.

Officials hope that women engaged in and those looking forward to employment in domestic work will take advantage of this chance for improvement.

Employers of domestics are urged to encourage their help to attend this class so as to raise the efficiency of their workers. A small fee will be required of those registering for this course so as to provide material to be used in the lessons. A large, prompt and regular attendance to this class may be the beginning of an evening school for negroes which will offer training in several other worthwhile and much needed fields. Those who desire to attend are asked to show their interest by signing up at the first meeting of the class at Burke tonight.

Charlotte, N. C., News
March 1, 1940

Servants

Training Should Solve The Problem In Upper Levels

A recent story in The News on the Negro servant problem prompts Edward W. Brice, president of the Clinton College for Negroes — a normal and industrial school at Rock Hill operated on the same lines as the famous Tuskegee Institute in Alabama — to advise us that his institution has inaugurated a course for the training of domestic servants.

The servant problem in the South is not simple or easy of solution. That the general wage level is too low to furnish the Negroes engaged in the trade an adequate living is obvious. However, it is to be said also that many thousands — perhaps the majority — of Southern people who employ servants for full or part time belong to economic levels which in the North do all their own work. They make little money, and must take account of every extra dollar — employ servants precisely because wages are low.

And any general wage increase would certainly drive many of them to doing without servants — thus decreasing employment.

What the solution may be, we do not know. But the Clinton College plan seems a sensible approach to at least one angle of the case. Employers in the upper economic brackets can afford to pay wages better than the average, have generally paid them even for half-efficient servants. And given an opportunity to secure fully trained and efficient servants, many of them will certainly be willing to pay in proportion.

Charlotte, N. C., News
February 28, 1940

Negro College Trains Servants

Edward W. Brice, president of Clinton College for Negroes in Rock Hill, S. C., after reading an article in Sunday's News on the Negro servant problem, today informed The News that his college has inaugurated a course for the training of domestic servants.

The normal and industrial college is operated on the Tuskeegee plan, Professor Brice said. Training in the domestic servants course is given in dietetics and home economics. Both butlers and maids are trained. Two years are required for the full course.

"We are just beginning this course," Professor Brice said, "and have only eight enrolled at present. The course has the full support of the white people, and it is indicated that the demand for our graduates from the course will be far greater than the supply possibly can be. The earning power of graduates of the course will be increased at least 50 per cent."

Greensboro, N. C., Record
March 6, 1940

Trained Negro Servants

A RECENT article in the Charlotte News on the negro servant problem prompted Edward W. Brice, president of Clinton College for Negroes—a normal and industrial school at Rock Hill, S. C., operated on the same lines as the famous Tuskegee institute, in Alabama—to advise our esteemed Queen City contemporary that his school has inaugurated a course for the training of domestic servants.

Says the News:

The servant problem in the south is not simple or easy of solution. That the general wage level is too low to furnish the negroes engaged in the trade an adequate living is obvious. However, it is to be said also that many thousands—perhaps the majority—of southern people who employ servants for full or part time belong to economic levels which in the north do all their own work. They make little money, and must take account of every extra dollar—employ servants precisely because wages are low.

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The News, we think, discusses and views this problem in the logical and realistic way.

There is a huge surplus of servants, such as they are, but at the same time there is a great scarcity of energetic, honest and efficient servants. There is, no doubt room for many thousands of the latter classification. The average pay of the better servants is too low; but in this, as in everything else, there is always the possibility of betterment.

Greensboro, N. C., News
February 27, 1940

THOMASVILLE NEGRO PROJECT IS LAUNCHED

Training Course For Domestic Servants to Begin This Evening.

(Special to Daily News)

THOMASVILLE, Feb. 26. — A large number of local negro men and women will begin work Tuesday evening in the first of a series of classes for domestic servants given as a project of the WPA educational section under the professional and service division and sponsored by the civic clubs of Thomasville.

The course, which will be given each Tuesday and Friday evening from 7:30 until 9:30 o'clock for the next six months, will cover all phases of maid service, cooking, household care, care of children, table service and other forms of domestic service, according to Mrs Juanita Williams, supervisor of area six of the WPA educational section, who was in the city last week making necessary arrangements.

Class work, Mrs. Williams stated will consist of both instruction and actual demonstration with a great deal of student participation.

Madge Moore, a graduate of Bennett college, has been secured to instruct the classes.

According to Mrs. G. E. Crowell chairman of the committee from the local Business and Professional Women's club, who started the project, such a course is needed badly in Thomasville, there being a scarcity of well trained servants in the city. Several months ago work began in the B. and P. W. club, and both the Lions and Rotary clubs were approached concerning the subject. The three civic groups agreed to sponsor the course jointly by providing the equipment and supplies.

Domestics Organize To Fight "Slave Markets"

To wipe out shameful working conditions in the various "Slave Markets" of the city, as revealed by The New York Age, the United Domestic Social Services Committee will meet on Friday evening at the hall of the Harlem Labor Union, in the Hotel Fane, 205 West 135th street.

At this time plans will be made to assist domestic workers who are forced to go to the "Slave Markets" to get work. James Thornhill, well-known labor organizer, will address the meeting.

Jobless To Attend Servants' School

The school for domestic servants the local office of the Department of Labor, Georgia State Employment Service will sponsor here April 9-11 will be primarily for unemployed persons already registered with the agency, Roy Bethune, GSES office manager, said yesterday.

Servants already employed will be accepted for the school if space permits. Mr. Bethune announced after several housewives had asked to have their servants registered for the course.

MAID GETS NO REWARD FOR HER HONESTY

Girl's Action, However, Establishes Faith In Race Workers

By HAYWARD JACKSON

NEW ORLEANS, Feb. 23—Unwavering honesty in small matters thrust a hotel maid into an $80,000 spotlight during the recent busy carnival season here, it was disclosed this week.

Mrs. Emma Palton Palao, a day maid in the St. Charles hotel, while on duty picked up what she thought to be a souvenir from one of the carnival floats.

According to rules and custom she immediately turned the article over to the housekeeper, who placed it in the lost and found department.

Imagine Mrs. Palao's surprise several days later when she learned that the owner of the pearls, Miss Audry N. Campbell, Washington, D.C., had wired hotel manager, Captain John J. O'Leary, requesting that the jewels be shipped to Washington at an insured value of $80,000.

Miss Campbell, enroute from this city to Washington, had reached Ocean Springs, Miss., before realizing that she had left her jewels. From that point she wired the hotel management stating that she thought she had left the pearls in the bathroom.

Mrs. Palao had already found them in that place and turned them in. Upon being assured the jewels were found, Miss Campbell then gave directions as to shipment.

It was reported that the hotel manager was shocked beyond words at the mention of the $80,000 value, for the jewels had been placed in the lost and found department as any ordinary article. In fact it was reported that the string of 66 pearls, set with a ruby, eight diamonds and closed with a platinum and gold clasp, had been looked upon as a relic of carnival [illegible]

[illegible] hilarity.

The precious bundle was packed by a local jeweler and the insurance and shipping toll amounted to $80.50.

Mrs. Palao has been employed as maid at the St. Charles for four years. Her husband, Norman Palao, Southern Pacific employee for 15 years, is prominent on the West side. The Palaos have been married two years.

Even though observers were disappointed because no reward had been made Mrs. Palao by the owner, the honest maid, blessed with the same degree of modesty, expressed little concern over a reward and considered her actions a mere routine of duty. "Any other employee would have done likewise," she opined.

The St. Charles hotel employs more Race help than any other hotel in New Orleans. It is the only hotel of its ranking that employs Race waiters. Many of the city's most distinguished visitors make reservations there.

Local Race hotel employees praised Mrs. Palao and expressed belief that her action will have a stabilizing effect on the constant replacing of Race hotel employees.

LABOR - 1940
MIGRATION MOVEMENT

Migratory Workers' Hearing Astounds Congress Committee

Life of Transient Very Hard, Virginia Group Tells Probers

DEC 5 1940

Daily World

WASHINGTON. —(ANP)— Discussing the problems of migrant workers who now are making Washington their Mecca, members of the committee conducting the hearings are learning many unknown facts concerning these emigress, who believe the solution to their problems lies in the capital city.

Hundreds of Negroes are included in this group and they tell many interesting stories.

FINDS LIFE HARD

One is an indictment of the "fair South" where southerners understand the Negro's problems. Telling the story, this man said he finds the life of a transient hard. Asked if he had applied for relief, he says he has. Trained as a tailor and living in South Carolina, Edward Robinson has been unable to get it and he won't go home because he's too frail for the sort of WPA job he could get there. There's nothing but stump digging," he said.

CHILDREN FORM PROBLEM

"Practically all of the migrants are colored. Illegitimate children have sometimes been left behind, but it is questionable whether the rate of illegitimacy among the group of transients is greater than that for the population at large."

from being as abject as they tend to be portrayed in the popular mind.

Help for the Joads

DEC 21 1940

NOBODY knows how many thousands of migrants are roaming the highways of the nation in search of work. During the past few months the House Committee Investigating Interstate Migration has gathered a great deal of information about these destitute citizens, but the surface of the problem has barely been scratched. The tobacco belt, the mines and oil fields of the southern Appalachians, the ghost towns throughout the country—all these potential sources of further migration were, largely for lack of funds, either neglected or scantily studied by the committee, which under the able chairmanship of Representative John H. Tolan is now holding its final hearings in Washington.

In the course of its investigations the committee examined a great number of witnesses—planters, government officials, sociologists, and many victims of the changing economy of the South. While the stories of the migrants themselves were tragically uniform accounts of following the crops, of hopeless family wanderings that netted at best $300 a year, of farmers turned scab in the industrial cities of the North, the testimony of the experts was diverse and even contradictory. Some accused cotton planters of using government acreage-reduction payments to buy tractors, which were promptly used to cut down a labor force already cut down by the crop reduction itself. Where there were 30,000 tractors in use in the South in 1930, there were 100,000 in 1938. And while some of the witnesses who appeared before the Tolan committee contended that the effects of mechanization had been negligible, figures submitted by the Southern Tenant Farmers' Union concerning their own membership clearly reflect the disintegration, for one reason or another, of the plantation system. In 1934, 90 per cent of the union's members were share-croppers or tenants; by 1937, 60 per cent had become day laborers; and today 75 per cent work for wages on the plantations of Missouri, Arkansas, and Mississippi. H. L. Mitchell, who has furnished us with the figures in connection with the S. T. F. U., points out that the rapid turnover in its membership is a measure of the extent to which these workers have become migrants. Although 100,000 farm workers have held membership in the union, the largest number ever enrolled at one time was 40,000.

Some of the Tolan committee's witnesses were disposed to believe that further migration will be checked by the expansion of defense industries, but the consensus was less hopeful. The migrants of today have lived for years below the subsistence level and have no industrial skills or experience. They are suited only for farm labor—and in this area the war offers no hope. Rupert Vance, the University of North Carolina sociologist, told the committee: "The Southeast has two great problem areas in the old cotton belt and the Appalachian Mountains. They are likely as a result of the war to be joined by a third problem zone—the tobacco belt. . . . The [cotton] market is vanishing before our eyes, and the price is held up only by the support of governmental operations."

The Tolan committee has hardly got its teeth into one of the major domestic problems of the United States. We would like to see its work continued and its findings more widely publicized. But even now it is apparent that certain legislative steps are long overdue. It should not be difficult for the federal government, by virtue of its contributions to state relief funds, to force modification of state laws which require one to three years' residence before holding an unemployed worker eligible for relief. Increased appropriations for the Farm Security Administration are likewise in order. This agency, which besides making loans to share-croppers has established camps for migrant workers, has so far been their only source of aid. A few camps, providing decent housing for less than 10,000 workers, is obviously no solution, but these camps might serve as models for an extensive program of low-cost housing, undertaken jointly by the government and employers of migratory labor.

Such measures are obviously superficial, however, and are offered to relieve a serious situation rather than to solve the problem. At the heart of the matter is the crying need for extending minimum-wage legislation to agricultural workers. Testifying before the committee, both Secretary of Labor Perkins and Colonel Philip B. Fleming criticized exemption of farm workers from federal labor laws and pointed out that a precedent already exists in the sugar industry, where the government makes payment of a minimum wage a prerequisite for subsidies to the owners of plantations and refineries. With Southern planters receiving millions of dollars annually in government subsidies, it should not be impossible to impose working conditions that would not drive Southern farm labor to the highways in desperation.

LABOR - 1940
MIGRATION MOVEMENT

Raleigh, N. C., News & Observer
November 29, 1940

Poverty in Rural Areas Brings Migrant Workers

F. S. A. Reports Displacement of Negroes on Farms is Contributing Factor

The whole background against which the seasonal migration of large numbers of Negroes takes place is in the general impoverishment of agriculture in the South and a long-time trend in certain areas of the South Atlantic states leading to the displacement of Negroes on the farm, the Farm Security Administration stated yesterday in a preliminary report of a study made of the migration of agricultural workers.

"This is creating a large group of foot-loose people whose background in agricultural work leads them to seek seasonal agricultural labor, which they often obtain through acceptance of a lower wage scale than that acceptable to the local labor available," the report stated.

The study showed that the potato migration is not the largest but is the one of definite interstate character. It begins in northern Florida in April, attracting approximately 3,000 workers for the potato harvest there.

About the middle of May, between 1,500 and 2,000 workers move into Charleston County, S. C., to work until the harvest is completed there about the middle of June when they move into North Carolina. Largest concentration of the migratory workers in this State is in the Elizabeth City area, where local workers bring the number to about 3,000.

After about six weeks work in North Carolina, the laborers move into Virginia, Maryland and finally into New Jersey.

The migration is made up almost completely of Negroes, most of them unattached men. Relatively few of the workers have automobiles and most of them travel on trucks of contractors. The contractors are largely truckers and farmers from north Florida who have invested heavily in trucking and potato digging and grading machinery and who move up along the coast, contracting with farmers to dig, haul and grade potatoes.

"The labor is brought along to perform the job and its presence on the scene is assurance to the farmer that the contractor is not a racketeer who will take an advance from the farmer and not show up with the labor," the report, compiled by the labor division of the F. A. A., stated.

The practice of contractors hauling labor relieves the farmer of major responsibilities in handling labor, the report states, particularly where he lets a contract for the entire job. The report adds: "Frequently an irresponsible contractor, unable to get any contracts, may leave a group of workers stranded somewhere along the line without transportation."

As to housing conditions of the migrants, the report states:

"Housing . . . consists mainly of unoccupied box cars, the floors of packing sheds and grading stations and unoccupied hay lofts, barns and shacks on the farm. Overcrowding is typical, 12 to 15 people often being housed in a shack measuring about 12x15 feet. Any old, unoccupied house serves as many as 35 workers. In most cases toilets, where they exist, are so filthy and unsanitary that the migrants refuse to use them and seek the nearest patch of woods instead. Cooking facilities are completely absent except for an occasional broken-down stove discarded by the farmer . . . Under such conditions, the health of migrants has not flourished but it cannot be stated at this time the extent to which migration under such circumstances has been responsible for ill health."

Tabulations on earnings of potato migrants are not available, the report states, adding that "there are data which show that the annual income of these workers is extremely low, falling into the income level of the poorest sections of the American population."

The report also discusses the local migrations of workers to Chadbourn and to Wallace for the strawberry harvests. Approximately 5,00 Negroes from a radius of 75 miles go to Chadbourn and Wallace draws about 10,000 migrants.

"While the moves are short ones, they are significant in that such large numbers flock into these areas for such low returns, indicating that the place of origin is a depressed 'problem' area," the report stated of the Chadbourn and Wallace migrations.

Migratory Workers

Few social problems of the day are crying louder for solution than that of the migratory workers in the southeast. Unless something is done, and done quickly, to improve conditions among this class, the results of their present mode of life may cost the entire area highly, in health, safety and life.

DEC 7 1940

Representatives of five southeastern states, including Georgia, will meet in Atlanta on December 17 and 18 to discuss the problem of the migratory workers. It is to be hoped a workable solution may be found at that time, but it cannot be gainsaid that it is a most difficult and perplexing issue.

The Constitution

For a number of years there has been a class of workers which follows the crop season northward, from the southernmost tip of Florida to Maine, along the Atlantic coast. They live in horrifyingly unsanitary conditions, in roadside camps, in shacks, in cars. Immorality and disease are rife among them and the failure of a single crop brings the majority of them face to face with actual starvation. Entire families cling together, children growing up in surroundings which could hardly be worse.

Because they have no settled home, these wretched people are unable to participate in state and federal security benefits. They are the victims of numerous labor racketeers and are repeatedly victimized by the unscrupulous.

The problem has, of recent months, been aggravated by another type of migratory worker, those attracted by the hope of employment on defense projects.

Atlanta, Ga.

It will require, undoubtedly, new state and federal legislation to properly cure this social sore. However, some temporary aid must be devised pending passage of such legislation. Until a constructive method of dealing with them is found, the states of the southeast are face to face with an "Okie" problem at least as serious as any ever faced in California.

TWO 'LABOR VILLAGES' SPRING UP AT LILBOURN

Commercial Appeal
Memphis, Tenn.

Homes Provided For Migratory Farm Workers

DEC 15 1940

110 HOUSES BEING BUILT

50 Of Them For White Families—FSA Subsistence Project Among Seven Started After 1939 Tenant Evictions

Special to The Commercial Appeal

LILBOURN, Mo., Dec. 14.—Two Farm Security Administration projects, known as "subsistence projects," designed to provide livinv places for homeless and migratory farm labor, and consisting of 50 five-room dwellings for white and 60 for negroes, are nearing completion on the outskirts of Lilbourn.

The two are units of several such groups of houses being built in Southeast Missouri. Other locations for these settlements, also known as "group-labor villages," are near Morehouse, Gray's Ridge, Wyatt, East Prairie, Wardell and Kennett.

Stark Given Credit

The projects are said to be a direct result of the mass demonstration against tenant eviction which occurred in this section in January, 1939, bringng much unfavorable publicity to the whole of Southeast Missouri. Governor Stark is said to have made a personal request for the housing projects hereabouts.

The projects constitute a new phase in resettlement work in Missouri. The FSA hopes to rehabilitate the families who are to occupy the dwellings. The average size of each house is 20 by 30 feet. A pitcher pump has been driven in front of each residence. Each project will have a laundry to be used co-operatively, and probably other such features.

The houses at Lilbourn are to be rented for a specified sum. Other projects, including the one at Wardell, Pemiscot County, will offer tenants an opportunity to purchase the house and surrounding acreage on long-time payment plans. In the words of the FSA authorities, it "is hoped to interest tenants and migratory laborers in exchanging their transient status for a permanent security on land for homes."

In Cotton Sections

These families will be encouraged in "subsistence agriculture." All tracts are laid out alike, and every activity of the tenants will be supervised by the Government. The project at Wardell cost $78,000, not including the 240 acres of land which it encompasses. The houses there are situated on 80 acres, with the remaining acreage to be used for farming.

The white project here consists of 140 acres at the southeast corner of the town. The negro project lies northwest of town. Both projects have furnished work for carpenters, paperhangers, painters and other laborers of this section. The Missouri State Employment Service furnished some laborers.

Projects are located strategically in sections where cotton labor will be most in demand.

MIGRANT AID SEEN IN WAGE-HOUR LAW

New York Times

Miss Perkins and Col. Fleming Urge Extension of the Act to Large-Scale Farming

New York, N. Y.

SECRETARY ALSO FOR NLRA

House Committee Announces Mrs. Roosevelt Will Appear as Witness Next Week

DEC 4 1940

WASHINGTON, Dec. 3 (UP)—Secretary Perkins and Colonel Philip B. Fleming, wage-hour administrator, appeared before the special House committee investigating migrant workers today and urged that the wage-hour law be extended to large-scale agricultural enterprises.

Later, the chairman, Representative John H. Tolan, said that Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt will testify before the committee next Monday or Tuesday.

Miss Perkins and Colonel Fleming criticized the exemption from Federal labor laws, including the Wage-Hour law, of workers in agricul-

tural industries such as processing, canning and packing. The former proposed that these workers be brought under the National Labor Relations Act as well as the Wage-Hour law.

The Secretary of Labor suggested that the Federal Government condition its agricultural benefit payments to compliance with definite labor standards, as in the case of sugar benefit payments. She said that the plight of migrants is worse than that of any other group of American citizens, and recommended increased Federal-State cooperation to meet the problem.

Colonel Fleming proposed 15 to 30 cents an hour as a possible minimum farm wage. He said he believed it possible to devise an administratively practical plan whereby farm workers would be brought under the wage-hour act, but he conceded that any hour limitations would have to be extremely flexible. This flexibility would have to be so great, he continued, that "it would in all likelihood tend to neutralize a large part of the benefit to labor."

Both witnesses emphasized that, in connection with actual farming operations, they referred only to large, industrial corporation-type farms employing many workers.

Ralph Heitzel, C. I. O. unemployment director, read to the committee a paper prepared by Philip Murray, new C. I. O. president who was unable to attend the meeting personally, urging that New Deal social legislation be extended to cover migrant workers.

Mr. Murray said there could be no real solution to the problems of destitute migrants until private industry can offer "reasonably full employment opportunities." The migrant problem, he added, will be aggravated even further when the current national defense expansion slackens.

Mrs. Roosevelt testified before a Congressional investigating group on one othef occasion. This was early this year before a House committee studying District of Columbia welfare institutions. She also appeared at a session of the Dies committee, but only as a spectator.

Murray Says Unions Can Aid Migrants

Daily Worker
New York, N.Y.
DEC 4 1940

CIO Chief Also Urges Strong Unions to Curb Unemployment

By Adam Lapin
(Daily Worker Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 3.—Philip Murray, newly elected CIO president, today urged stronger unions and extensions of social legislation as means of aiding migratory workers.

Unemployment as a whole, and the resulting problem of workers wandering from town to town in search of work, will not be solved by the boom in the arms industries, Murray declared.

He said that after the "boom now induced by National Defense expenditures, there will undoubtedly be a period in which we will again have to consider those normal measures which are necessary to end unemployment in the nation."

Murray's statement was read to the House Committee investigating the Interstate migration of destitute citizens by Ralph Hetzel, CIO Unemployment Director.

Collective bargaining through industrial unions **"has already been useful in mitigating the effects of migration due to unemployment,"** said Murray.

URGES MORE UNION PACTS

He urged the "extension of sound collective bargaining agreements and the growth of industrial unions as a first step toward the protection of those who might otherwise become destitute migrants."

Problems of migratory workers are further increased by the fact that they are almost universally exempted from protective social legislation, such as the Social Security Act and the Wage-Hour Act, he said.

"The need for extension of these national laws to migrant workers emphasizes again the fact that the problem of the migrant is a federal problem and can be handled effectively for the most part only on the federal level," Murray said. "By the very nature of the case it is impossible for the states effectively to meet the problems of those workers who move about within the state or more especially from state to state."

This is shown most clearly in the way states deny relief and WPA to migratory workers, on the ground that they do not meet residence requirements, Murray explained.

SUGGESTS FEDERAL GRANTS

"There must be some provision for relief and assistance to those migrants who are unable to establish proper residence requirements because they have moved in search of work," he said.

"A system of federal grants-in-aid for such workers has been suggested and it seems to me sound."

In addition, Murray called attention to hardships put on migratory workers through the alien registration law which requires registration and notification of address by all non-citizens.

Migratory workers change address so rapidly, he said, that it will be impossible for them to comply with the law, despite the harsh penalties provided for non-compliance.

The CIO head cited experiences in the steel industry to show that migratory workers come in great numbers from industries where technological unemployment has thrown thousands permanently out of work. This has been particularly marked in the "ghost towns" created by installation of automatic strip mills in the steel areas, he pointed out.

"The record of the steel industry during the past decade in abandoning entire plants, or large departments of plants, in one knockout blow reveals an ignorance and disconcern of social conditions that defy description," he said, 'in listing 53 plants whose abandonment caused the displacement of more than 38,000 workers.

"It seems clear that there will be no solution to the problem of the migration of destitute people until our nation's industry offers reasonably full employment opportunities," Murray declared, in renewing the CIO demand for "a national conference of the responsible leaders of labor, industry, agriculture and the government" to work out a solution to the problem of mass unemployment.

Other witnesses who testified before the House Committee today were Col. Philip B. Fleming, Wage-Hour Administrator, and Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins.

Daily Worker
New York

Fleming opened up strongly enough by proposing extension of wage-hour legislation to agricultural workers and then petered out when he got to the specific provisions of such a measure.

"Since the enactment of the fair labor standards act a number of outstanding authorities have urged or supported the extension of some form of wage and hour protection to agricultural workers on large - scale farms," Fleming declared.

"Such recommendations have been based on the recognition that the same considerations which led Congress to enact minimum wage legislation for industrial workers apply with even stronger force to this group of agricultural wage earners." Despite these brave words, Col. Fleming's administration of the Wage-Hour Act has been marked by numerous exemptions to processors of agricultural goods.

When he got down to cases, Fleming opposed extension of present minimum wages to agricultural labor and urged instead of a lower minimum, ranging from 15 to 30 cents an hour.

Daily Worker
New York, N.Y.
DEC 4 1940

Fleming expressed and implied opposition to any limitation of working hours for agricultural labor on the ground that this "would be a much more difficult problem than wage regulation."

Miss Perkins presented to the committee a moving picture of the difficulties and problems of agricultural workers, and wound up by presenting the recommendations made by a number of conferences of experts over a period of years.

These included extension of child labor, wage and hour, social security, the U.S.H.A., program for public low-rent housing and of other progressive laws to agricultural labor.

Most of these proposals have been abandoned by the administration in the past year. None have been actively pushed during the present session of Congress.

LABOR 1940
MIGRATION MOVEMENT

THE PROBLEM OF MIGRATION

Representative Tolan's committee studying the plight of migratory workers has completed its hearing for the Southeastern States and now moves on to another front where, haply, it will find conditions less discouraging than they were pictured here.

For those who followed the testimony placed before the committee at its hearings here this week it was a complacency-shattering experience. A Southerner who in his limited information had said the South possessed no migrant problem became shockingly aware that the South did have such a problem and that it was a problem charged with evil and a great deal of human suffering.

The committee enlisted its witnesses from broadly separated fields. There were college professors and cotton mill workers, followers of the crop seasons and experts of those New Deal agencies set up to deal with submarginal humans. The committee heard a great deal of opinion, some fact.

If the amount of opinion expressed surpassed the fact presented in bulk, the facts heard by the committee were distressing enough to give significance to the investigation and to foster the hope that the committee will in the end find a means of alleviating a condition that has grown up in the last quarter of a century.

Someone fond of figures of speech said the problem of the committee was to determine why Jeter Lester turned into a Joad. This is a clue to the strata in the human family immediately involved in the migrant problem. It is the strata met in Tobacco Road and Grapes of Wrath. Continuing the figure, someone said, the problem could more properly be defined as one to learn why there was ever a Jeter Lester in the first place.

It is a problem bound up inextricably with the South's frayed economy of the cotton plantation, the cotton mill settlement, eroded land, and malaria-spreading swamps. This became fairly clear as the hearing progressed and herein, one should say, is the value of the undertaking. It is not, perhaps, for the Tolan committee to say finally what shall be done to allay the evils of migration back and forth across state lines, but if it can relate those evils to other evils and evolve a clear picture, possibly from that a solution may be drawn.

It also transpired through repeated testimony that necessity and not evil-may-care spirit of adventure drove migrants in their never-ending search for greener pastures.

The hearing did not adequately develop, perhaps, the factor of health in the production of Jeter Lesters and Joads. More it seems might have been said in the form of testimony about the South's problem of malaria and nutritional deficiencies and their responsibility for human failures.

Even so, the committee moved in the direction of allaying the contempt and suspicion with which more fortunate and stable beings are inclined to regard the less fortunate and unstable beings which they have always had with them. This attitude must be abated if the problem is ever solved. Its persistence is one of the discouraging things about human nature.

One department of testimony offered at the hearing had to do with steps already taken towards solution of the migration problem. The committee heard about the migrant camps federally established in Florida. It heard testimony in their favor and that of a witness who referred to them as an ambulance parked at the end of a dangerous curve. This witness believed in preventive measures.

Possibly the most substantial contribution to the alleviation of migrancy described to the committee was that of the Farm Security Administration, a continuing federal agency charged with aiding unfortunates of the rural areas.

Upon the findings here and elsewhere the Tolan committee eventually will attempt to base some course of action for correcting the evils encountered. Naturally and properly members of the committee made no suggestions but the suggestions made by witnesses had this in common. They were agreed that the Federal Government should finance the solution whatever that might be, that migration moved inter-state and could not rightly be considered the problem of any one commonwealth.

This, with some reservations, seems a reasonable view; yet certainly there are things States can do to improve the situation. The development of markets in which Alabama made some progress a year ago is an example. But this is not the place to solve the problem of worker migration. It is the place only to voice a faint if fervent hope that something good and worthwhile will come out of the intensely interesting investigation in which the Tolan Committee is now engaged.

Sugar Company Manager Tells Why His Plantation Workers Are 'Aristocrats' Of South

Other Methods Of Improve Lot Of Agricultural Workers Are Set Out At Hearing On Migrants Held At Montgomery, Ala.

Special to The Commercial Appeal

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Aug. 15.—Agricultural enterprise must operate in larger units, these units, to provide continuity of employment; must co-operate with others whose period of peak labor demand does not coincide; and private research, undertaken by the larger units, must discover profitable ways of lengthening the seasons of labor requirement.

These suggestions, advanced as proved methods for bettering the migrant farm labor problem, were offered to the Committee Investigating Interstate Migration of Destitute Citizens here by Clarence R. Bitting, president of the United States Sugar Corporation of Clewiston, Fla.

Mr. Bitting, whose statement of conditions on the 100-mile long Everglades plantations of the United States Sugar Corp. showed that high standards of living in agriculture can be maintained in the South, spoke out against labeling the region the "Nation's No. 1 Economic Problem."

South's Side Is Given

"For years," he said, "the South has borne the cost of educating her youth, only upon maturity to find them grabbed by the industrial, commercial and financial North and East. This condition has placed an unfair educational burden upon most Southern States. In addition it has prevented the South's utilizing the genius, ability and capability which she cradled and fostered.

"The South has the most abundant supply of two of the three essentials for plant life—rainfall and sunshine; she has an adequacy of the third essential—soil.

"Most emphatically the South is not a problem, economically or otherwise, to the Nation, unless such problem be to find ways and means of continuing her subjection."

Mr. Bitting described in detail the methods and operation of the sugar plantations which occasioned a Federal official's statement that "On the whole, sugar cane workers in Florida constitute a relatively privileged class of agricultural workers."

Operations Explained

"As most of the work during the harvest was on piece-work rates," he said, "we made slight increases in these rates. Knowing there are right and wrong ways and methods of cutting and loading cane we hired an expert to teach the men proper working methods, which instruction is now continued through the group leaders. Without further changes in the piece-work rates the men were enabled to double their daily earnings and we made no attempt to cut wage rates.

"We rebuilt the villages so we now have weather-tight cottages, the exteriors of which are sheathed with gray-white asbestos shingles. To improve village appearance we offered prizes for the best lawns, flower gardens and vegetable gardens.

"As we do not permit child labor, we insisted that the children attend school.

"These aims were not achieved over night, nor were they achieved without costs. We knew it would take time and cost money. The time has been well spent and the money cost has paid excellent dividends. Today we have a happy, healthy, contended labor force."

Have 11 Villages

"Plantation employes," he said, "reside in 11 villages strategically located throughout the property . . Besides clean, sanitary, weatherproof cottages for employes and their families, each village contains accommodations for single employes, office, store, shops and equipment sheds, as well as schools, churches, recreational and first aid facilities. Employe hospitals are maintained at Clewiston on the west and Canal Point on the east."

The company stores, he said, are operated on a strict cash and carry basis without compulsion of any kind on the employes to patronize them. They are maintained purely as a convenience to employes, he added.

Mr. Bitting then described how the harvest season of three months has been lengthened, through scientific research, to nearly six months, a change which has steadied the demands for labor and decreased migration.

"Our problem on seasonal employment is fairly simple as we now have more than 85 per cent of the seasonal force returning year after year. Our chief source of concern today is preventing an oversupply of labor coming into the plantations."

Labor Is Allocated

Shortly before the beginning of the harvest season, a determination of the number of seasonal workers who will be required is made, Mr. Bitting said, and this number is then allocated to various localities —such as Georgia, Alabama and South Carolina, whose slack season is during the seasonal peak in the Everglades—where seasonal workers spend the rest of their year.

A personnel worker then visits these regions and indicates to their leaders the number of workers who will be accepted. A "Cane-cutters' Special" train is operated at the beginning of harvest season and the Sugar Corporation advances railroad fare to all old employes.

"Upon arrival at the plantations the employes go directly to the receiving station where they are given a physical examination. Those who do not pass are furnished return transportation. Those who pass the examination are housed and fed, without cost, until assigned to regular work. Immediately upon passing physical examinations they are supplied with paper, envelope and stamp and instructed to write the home folks of their arrival."

Average Income Revealed

In addition to free lodging and other benefits, Mr. Bitting said, the average cash wage is more than $2 a day, the better workers exceeding $3 a day.

Concluding, the sugar executive gave his reasons for advocating enlargement of agricultural operating units.

The time-honored farm problem, he said, can never be met by raising prices, but must be met by lowering unit costs of production.

This lowering of production costs, he reasoned, can be achieved only through use of advanced scientific methods on a large scale.

Farm Workers Adrift

Advertiser 8-16-40

Few sociological problems in the United States today surpass in magnitude the growing problem of migratory farm workers—the farmers, many of them once well established and well-to-do, and the agricultural laborers, the "hired hands," who have been cut loose from permanent moorings to the soil and set adrift by natural and economic forces against which they have been powerless.

These farmers and farm laborers are now going about the country from place to place, particularly in certain sections, living as best they can, and picking up what work they can get — usually agricultural work on a day-labor basis, because they are mostly unsuited for any other kind of work.

Their own plight is pitiable. But that is not the only serious aspect of the situation; these hordes of roving farm workers endanger the economic stability and the general wellbeing of communities or sections upon which they descend in any considerable numbers. They create acute relief problems for some communities and States; they bring about an excessive labor supply in some places which plays havoc with working conditions; they sometimes cause critical problems of public health and education.

The American people have learned from the printed page, from the moving picture screen, and from the radio, a good deal about this grave human problem, which seems to be growing steadily worse. What the American people have not yet learned—and no one seems to know so far—is the solution to this problem of migratory laborers.

A special congressional committee is now investigating this situation, and its inquiries should be especially interesting to Alabamians because it is conducting some of its hearings in Montgomery, beginning today. For three days this committee, of which Representative John H. Tolan, of California, is chairman, will hear testimony from various kinds of witnesses on the extent of this migrancy, its nature, its causes and its possible remedies. Among the witnesses will be several of these migrant workers, who will tell their own stories. Other witnesses will include educators, economists and agricultural experts.

Representative Sparkman, of Alabama, is one of the five members of the Tolan committee. It is not merely for this reason, however, that the group is conducting a series of hearings in Alabama; it is also due to the fact that this section of the country—not Alabama alone so much as the Southeast as a whole, and particularly Florida—is being increasingly affected by population shifts which have set these migrant workers adrift.

It is very appropriate that this congressional committee should be headed by a representative from California, because that State has been affected more than any other by the "Okies," as these drifters have been named. Perhaps next to Califorina in this respect comes Florida, where migratory farm labor has created almost incredible conditions in some communities.

Naturally, practically all States are affected more or less, directly or indirectly, by this shifting population. The States which border upon those most affected, as Alabama and Georgia borders upon Florida, feel considerable effects of the movements into and out of Florida. And, of course, though on a smaller scale, some communities in Alabama have their own problems of this kind irrespective of the drift to and from Florida.

Even if a State were not itself affected directly in the least, however, it should not lack interest in this problem. For it is a national problem, and a very serious one. It is to be hoped the hearings of the Tolan committee, in Montgomery and elsewhere will produce findings that will help to remedy the situation.—The Birmingham News

CONDITION OF MIGRANTS IS CALLED U. S. PROBLEM

Age-Herald 8-15-40 Birmingham, Ala.

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Aug. 14—(AP)—The problem of the migratory worker is one with which the federal government should deal witnesses told a special congressional investigating committee today

Some of those who testified were migrants themselves, others educators and experts in varied fields.

Better farm prices and widespread adoption of a "live-at-home" agricultural program were advanced as means of throttling migration among Southeastern ruralists, although one witness advanced the theory that movements of population were "necessary to develop, maintain and stabilize the national economy."

Among those viewing the problem of migration, especially among agricultural workers, as one for the federal government to solve were Harold Hoffsommer, professor of rural sociology at Louisiana State University; A. Frederick Smith, of the Florida Idustrial Commission, Tallahassee; Samuel Friedberg, former migrant and now a Birmingham Salvation Army worker, and Mrs. Janie Hamilton, unemployed cotton mill worker, Selma.

Their recommendations came principally upon questioning by Representative John H. Tolan (D., Calif.), chairman of the congressional group, who estimated 300,000 migrants were "on the roads every day."

Dr. Rupert B. Vance, professor of sociology at the University of North Carolina, holding that migration was "necessary" in the national economy, said that "the problem of the Southern Appalachians result from the pressure of the timber lands, coal mining and limited farm lands."

"The right to move," he continued, "may seem a poor substitute for real security, but it must not be forgotten that for many of our citizens it has proved the road to increased well-being."

Howard Gray, president of the Alabama Farm Bureau Federation, asserted that migration among ruralists had resulted from "the disadvantage to which farmers have been subjected in the market place," pointing out that with government benefit payments included cotton brought only about 71 per cent of a parity price.

"When we have done away with the tremendous disparity between price received and price paid (by the farmers) it is our belief," he continued, "that the farmers will be able to improve their farms and homes or perhaps undertake to purchase a farm and in that way become more securely tied to the land."

Advocacy of a more widespread "live-at-home" program, whereby farmers would produce what they consumed, came from both P. O. Davis, director of the Alabama Agricultural Extension Service, and Dr. Vance, while Prof. Hoffsommer said he would favor as one means of meeting the problem the establishment of destitute migratory families on small subsistence homesttads until they could be taken care of elsewhere.

Gray and Hoffsommer agreed that while mechanization yet had not replaced as many Alabam and Louisiana farm worners as it had elsewhere, that expansion was likely with resultant decrease in jobs.

Representative Claude V. Parsons (D., Ill.) recalled "my state used to ship thousands of mules into this section every Spring and hundreds of tons of hay every Fall," but that this condition did not exist any more because of advances in mechanization. He held more widespread use of machinery had "killed the mule market" and caused overproduction crops which the animals formerly consumed in large measures.

T. M. Campbell, Southern Negro field agent for the U. S. Department of Agriculture, testified that migration of the Negro was promoted primarily by lack of profitable employment and the "lack of opportunity to develop in his present location."

A demand for his labors rather than a desire for social equality, Campbell held responsible for widespread migration of the Negro to Northern centers in 1923-24.

Mrs. Hamilton, out of work since March because of the closing of a McKinney, Tex., cotton mill, answered Chairman Tolan negatively when he asked:

"Do you think it would be a good thing for any state to say yo can't come to our state unless you've got money?"

"I wouldn't sit down and starve," she added.

Tolan then pointed out states had varied settlement or citizenship laws, some requiring six months residence before they would accept relief applications from anyone and others requiring as much as five years.

In Alabama, Miss Loula Dunn, state welfare director, told newsmen, a person must reside six months before applying for "general relief," such as surplus commodities and temporary aid; a year before becoming eligible for old-age pensions; and five of the last nine yars before claiming assistance as a blind person. There are no residence requirements applicable to those seeking WPA jobs.

Friedberg told the committee it was his belief that "55 to 60 per cent of those on the road honestly are trying to find work," but added that most of them were handicapped by "haphazard training" for any skilled or semi-skilled work.

Witnesses scheduled to appear tomorrow include:

John Beecher, FSA supervisor of migratory labor camps in Florida; Frank Collins, Chosen, Fla.; Timothy Farman, Okdochobee Migratory Labor Camp, Belle Glade, Fla.; Mayor John Dalaney, Pahokee, Fla.; Dr. William Weems, health officer, West Palm Beach County, Florida; Howard Stovall, representing Delta Council, Stoneville, Miss.; Homer C. McNamara, Delta Experiment Station, Stoneville, Miss.

H. L. Mitchell, secretary, Southern Tenant Farmers Union, Memphis; Ben Snell, Montgomery County, Alabama; Dr. F. D. Patterson, president, Tuskegee Institute, Tuskegee; Myron Falk, executive secretary, Louisiana Council on Migratory Labor, Eaton Rouge, La., and Dr. John E. Bryan, National Youth administrator, Birmingham.

LABOR 1940
Migrati

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MIGRATION MOVEMENT

COTTON ACREAGE CUT, MIGRANTS ARE LINKED

Johnston Says Further Reduction Will Make More Idle

GROUP HEARS EXPERTS

John Rust And H. L. Mitchell Are Among Those Addressing Congressional Committee —Federal Relief Urged

Three MidSouth agricultural experts testified yesterday at a special Congressional Committee hearing in Montgomery, Ala., seeking a solution to the problem of migrant farm workers.

Oscar Johnston, president of the National Cotton Council, said in a paper that a "further cotton acreage reduction will result in hundreds of thousands of families being thrown on relief or becoming indigent, migratory agricultural labor."

Mechanical Trend Seen

"In view of the tremendous saving of machine harvesting over hand picking, especially in heavy-yield territory, it appears that the cotton grower will be compelled to go in for completely mechanized farming at the earliest possible opportunity, if he is to withstand the competition from foreign growers and substitute fibers," John Rust, president of the Rust Cotton Picker Co. here, said.

H. L. Mitchell of Memphis, secretary of the Southern Tenant Farmers Union, warned the committee that destitute ruralists, forced off the soil, many of them into "crowded slums" of towns, constituted potentially a "fertile breeding ground for a real Fifth Column."

A works program designed to restore overcultivated land and other natural resources, and at the same time afford a supplemental income for farmers during off-seasons was suggested as a possible remedy for the problem of migrating, destitute citizens by E. S. Morgan, Southeastern regional director of the Farm Security Administration.

Better System Needed

Mr. Morgan expressed the view that the working out of a better tenure system would help, since, he said, "the present system of tenure here in the South offers little encouragement to the tenants to protect the soil or the buildings on the farm he leases."

The FSA official was one of many experts who have mingled with migrants and others in giving direct testimony or who have outlined their views in voluminous documents filed with the committee during its three-day hearing, concluded yesterday.

A recommendation that Federal relief grants be made to states to assist in caring for migrant workers was made by Miss Loula Dunn, Alabama welfare commissioner.

John Beecher, FSA supervisor of Florida migratory labor camps, and Mr. Mitchell agreed mechanization was responsible for forcing many farm workers out. Homer C. McNamera, superintendent of the Mississippi Agricultural Experiment Station at Stoneville, said he did not see a serious threat from mechanical cotton pickers and choppers in his territory.

The problem presented by migratory farm workers and by service and white collar workers was described by A. Frederick Smith, chief of the Department of Research and Statistics of the Florida Industrial Commission. The agricultural workers arrive in Florida at Crop gathering time, he said, hitch-hiking, in brokendown cars and trailers and packed like sardines into trucks. There are no State regulations governing their migrations and they present serious problems to the health department.

Trusting To Luck

The service workers are waiters, clerks, salesmen and others who follow the season during which Florida entertains some million guests. Many of these trust to luck for employment, a small group, serving mostly the large resort hotels, migrates regularly from North to South and back again with regular employment assured at each end of the route.

Of the farm migrants a large number were stranded in Florida last year making a critical problem for relief workers. There are no welfare appropriations for this type of destitute person and they must depend for aid on private charities or starve. Representative Frank Osmers, New Jersey, suggested that since these workers performed a necessary service in the ceremony of Florida, the State should be responsible for them. Smith replied that State and government should go 50-50 in caring for these destitute migrants, but that Florida could not afford even a start in giving aid to these thousands of people.

Smith recommended Federal grants under Federal supervision, a system of both permanent and movable houses, health conditions such as would protect both migrant and permanent resident, and the establishment of a farm placement service to which both workers and land owners could appeal.

Boll Weevils Got Him

A southern-born man of 46 who has been farming all his life, but has never owned a farm spoke next. He represented that class of migrants who have taken their families along on their migrations and have succeeded in holding the family together. Once he paid $200, earned by picking cotton, down on a farm but the boll weevils destroyed the crop and he lost the farm before the year was out. He wandered around the country, making $12 to $15 in good weeks and working about 24 weeks out of the 52. His wife and children traveled in the car with him, trying always to locate on a farm, but never able to. He is now living in a Florida migratory camp where he makes $90 eight months of the year, nothing the remainder.

Clarence R. Bitting, one of the country's largest sugar growers, spoke for an industry in which the peak of employment, formerly three months of the year, has now been raised to six months with half the peak force on the property the year around. He employs a peak of 5,000 workers of whom 90 per cent are southern negroes on his Everglades sugar farms. He furnishes his workers with good houses, well roofed, screened and easy to keep clean because he believes shacks cost employers money in the sick and miserable people they produce.

Offers Solution

He suggested to the Congressional committee as solutions for the migrant problem: The encouragement of larger operating units individually, corporately or cooperatively or by all three basic methods working in close harmony in each locality; the cooperation of these units with similar units in other parts of the country with different labor seasons to provide continuity of employment for seasonal labor, and research to lengthen seasonal peak labor, develop crops to provide additional employment in slack seasons, encouragement of small industrial plants in rural locations to absorb labor during slack seasons, find ways to reduce costs so as to increase profits and broaden markets, increase the effectiveness of agricultural labor to the end that earnings of agricultural workers may be increased without increasing unit costs of production.

The hearing brought out the fact that millions of dollars have been spent in this country to protect the free flow of iron and steel but no a dime to protect the annual interstate commerce of four million people one-third of whom are children. The hearing will be continued today and tomorrow.

U. S. RELIEF FOR NOMAD WORKERS IS ADVOCATED

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Aug. 15(AP)——A recommendation of federal "relief grants" to states for caring for wandering, destitute workers was placed before a congressional committee on interstate migration today, shortly after it was warned that ruralists forced off the soil constituted potentially a "fertile breeding ground for a real fifth column."

Holding that "the problem of transiency is national in scope," Miss Loula Dunn, Alabama welfare commissioner, said that "the initiative in establishing a pattern of relief grants to states should in my judgment be assumed by the federal government."

It was H. L. Mitchell, secretary of the Southern Tenant Farmers' Union, who warned of "fifth column" dangers and asserted that for every farm family migrating westward, 10 had "moved into the crowded slums" of nearby cities and towns, "there to join the ranks of unemployed seeking to get on WPA."

Federal Law Urged

A federal law "providing for the payment of minimum wages as prerequisite for sharing in government benefit payments under crop control measures," was suggested by the union executive, who added that "the right to self-organization among farm laborers ought to be protected just as the right is guaranteed industrial workers."

Deep-rooted sociological aspects of the migrant problem were delved into by a series of witnesses, most of them experts in varied fields, before the committee, headed by Representative Tolan (D., Calif.). Hearings here will be concluded tomorrow.

Competition from Cuban vegetables produced with "peon labor" and freight rate differentials operating against the South were viewed as handicaps on Southeastern truck farmers and subsequent contributors to the plight crop-following workers by Mayor John Dulaney, of Pahokee, Fla.

Establishment of means to protect migrants "from exhorbitant rents and to guarantee wages" was urged by Dr. William Weems, county physician for West Palm Beach County, Florida. He also advocated better housing facilities, saying many abodes occupied in his area were unfit for habitation and constituted public health hazards.

Economic Reasons Cited

Dr. F. D. Patterson, president of Tuskegee Institute, and other witnesses held that the basic reasons behind the migration of both Negroes and whites were "economic," the seeking of better opportunities and employment.

The committee was told by John Beecher, Farm Security Administration supervisor of Florida migratory labor camps, that processes similar to those prompting farmer exoduses from Oklahoma and other states of the drouth area were "operating" in an accelerating degree also in the Mississippi Valley and the Southeast.

"Soil depletion through erosion rather than drouth, acreage reduction, and mechanization have completely displaced a great number," Beecher said, "while an even greater number have been pushed down from tenancy to the status of wage laborers employed but a few months a year."

Mechanization Blamed

While Beecher and Mitchell agreed that mechanization could be blamed directly for forcing many off the land over the Southeast and elsewhere, Homer C. McNamera, superintendent of the Mississippi Agricultural Experiment Station at Stoneville, said he did not see a serious threat to farm labor from mechanical cotton choppers and pickers in the Mississippi Delta.

"Probably the greatest resistance of all to further mechanization of Delta plantations," McNamera said, "lies in the fact that 56 per cent of all cultivated lands must be planted to crops other than cotton. In this case the operator can grow his own feed and produce his own workstock. He can grow his feed, and when prices are low, avoid a large cash outlay for fuel, oil and repairs."

Vast Increase of 'Joads' Seen by Migratory Student

NOV 10 1940

Through the fields along the miles of Louisiana's sugar plantations today marches an army of migratory laborers, cane knives swinging as they harvest the sugar cane.

Just a little earlier this autumn, through the fields along the miles of Louisiana's cotton plantations marched an army of migratory laborers, backs bent, fingers flying, as they picked the cotton crop.

Earlier than that, in spring, the fields along the miles of Louisiana's strawberry farms marched an army of migratory laborers, backs bent lower yet, harvesting the strawberry crop.

Picturesque, say the tourists, focussing their cameras.

Myron Falk of Baton Rouge, technical assistant in the bureau of public assistance and child welfare, in the Louisiana state department of public welfare, didn't say "Picturesque," in New Orleans Saturday. Mr. Falk, graduate of Tulane university, class of 1931; graduate of Tulane's school of social work in 1932, said this:

"Migratory labor is a problem the United States of America, especially the agricultural South, and above all, Louisiana, has got to solve sanely, intelligently, and humanely, or there's a lot of trouble and human suffering ahead. Some of it is here right now. And if clear thinking, sound understanding and accurate knowledge of facts ever were necessary for the right solution of any problem, they're necessary for this. For Louisiana needs migratory labor, just as other sections of the United States needs migratory labor, coaxes it and coddles it. For to planters with crops to harvest, migratory labor or its lack means the difference between economic life and death."

Coddled, Then Kicked

Yet migratory labor alternately is wooed and scorned, coddled and kicked, says Mr. Falk, and his research proves it. So deep has Mr. Falk's research gone that recently he was summoned to Montgomery, Ala., to testify as an expert on the problem before the Tolan committee of the congress of the United States. This House committee, headed by Representative John H. Tolan, Democrat, of Oakland, Cal., has been studying the problem of American migratory labor, and is scheduled to report to Congress in January, 1941, recommending legislation to alleviate the suffering. No authoritative indication of just what legislation will be recommended has been made public, though, says Mr. Falk, it is assumed naturally that minimum wages and maximum hours will be part of it; social security and unemployment insurance, "if you can determine when they are unemployed."

Illustrating how grave the migratory labor problem can become, Mr. Falk says that his and other studies now estimate that there are approximately 1,000,000 share-croppers and tenant farmers in the agricultural South alone; that estimates of approaching mechanization of Dixie's farms indicates some 40 per cent of these share-croppers and tenant farmers will find it impossible to earn a living on their scanty acres, and so some 400,000 of them will "take to the road," released from their acreage. Unskilled, denied any opportunity, they will rove the roads looking for any kind of work. They will increase the thousands now roving and seeking any chance to earn a living, he asserted.

How Many Needed?

Migratory labor is needed in the agricultural South, says Mr. Falk, but just how much is a problem research workers are trying to solve, especially in rural Louisiana. He cites figures of his own investigation:

The strawberry belt in the Florida parishes around Hammond, Tangipahoa parish, employed 9000 strawberry pickers in the five-to-six-week harvest season between mid-April and early June.

The cotton belt in Louisiana employed some 2000 migratory workers, many of them Mexicans, as cotton pickers from early in September to mid-October.

The sugar cane harvest in Louisiana is employing thousands of cane-cutters in the fields today, imported from other states and communities, but the best figures he could obtain were that sugar planters in the 1939 harvest season requested 8000 migratory cane-cutters cleared through the Louisiana state department of labor employment service, working from mid-October up to Christmas.

"By no means are all migratory workers unskilled workers or farming field hands," says Mr. Falk. "Steel workers are migratory. They come for bridge-building and other heavy steel construction jobs, such as the Mississippi river bridges at New Orleans and Baton Rouge and Natchez, or the new Charity hospital at New Orleans. These are highly skilled workers, as are men making air conditioning installations, but because no one community keeps them steadily employed, they are forced into the classification of migratory workers.

"In Vidalia, La., I saw a man, a highly skilled expert, installing a burglar-proof lock apparatus on the vault of a bank. He told me he came from Minnesota to Louisiana for that one job, and he was going from Louisiana to Alabama for the next job. He is a migratory worker.

Can't Go Home

"Men like him, and the demand of planters and farmers for harvest-time labor, show the futility of the question so often asked, and supposed to settle the migratory labor problem, by those who have no definite knowledge of its details. They ask: 'Why don't these wandering workers go back where they came from and stay put?'

NOV 10 1940

"They can't go back where they came from, for there isn't work for them there. Right here in New Orleans there isn't year-round work for bridge builders and bank-lock experts and heavy construction steel workers. And many of these men have left their old home communities out of an honest ambitious stirring of spirit to better their condition, too. The period in history has a lot to do with their label. In the days discontented men came from Europe to America on the Mayflower, they were the Pilgrim Fathers. In the days discontented Americans pushed west from the Atlantic seaboard, they were heroic pioneers. Today when discontented men shove on to better themselves, they're bums.

"It takes courage to pull up stakes and leave home in search of work. Men with wives and children who do that today lose their right to vote; lose their right to send their children to public schools. But most of these men aren't bums and hoboes. Careful studies reveal that 98 per cent of America's migratory workers are honestly in search of work and want to settle down and have homes, and only two per cent of such wanderers are drifting bums with the itch-foot.

"Those 98 per cent aren't bums. They're American citizens at large. They live in a community, but they're never of it. They're wanted by all the states in the Union, temporarily, but by none of them permanently. They're men with a country but without a county.

$300 a Year

"More than 90 per cent of them are native Americans. Two-thirds of them are between the ages of 20 and 35. And the average crop-picker's total income for the hardest kind of work is only $300 a year. They have to eat, dress, travel on that; often with wives and families. They go hungry that the rest of us may eat.

"Travel is natural to Americans. The 1930 national census shows 39,000,000 Americans living outside the states in which they were born. Added millions live in the same state in which they were born, but in other communities than those in which they were born. One American out of two, a total of 65,000,000 Americans, moves from one community to another at least once in his lifetime. Americans always were a moving people.

"Many communities are slow to recognize this; harsh to drive out workers they think undesirable because they are migratory workers. Towns put up signs to wanderers: 'Don't Let the Sun Go Down on You Here,' and 'You'd Better Be Out of Town by Sundown.' Sheriffs, deputies, constables, pick them up, 'vag them' and give them a choice of serving 30 days' sentences in jail or getting out of town.

"Up in Colorado in sugar-beet picking season, they tell of two natives talking. One pointed out a passing shabby man and said: 'Look at that bum.' The other said, 'That's no bum; that's a beet-picker.' Harvest over, the same two saw the same man. The first said: 'There's your beet-picker.' The other said: 'That's no beet-picker; that's a bum.'

Mexicans Imported

"Louisiana plantation owners in the Tensas basin area, around Lake Providence, Tallulah, Vidalia, Ferriday, had to bring in Mexicans to pick their cotton, starting around 1920, when so many Negroes moved to New York, Chicago and Detroit. Those Mexicans travel in units of 40 to 60, with a leader they call 'jefe' and 'cacique.' He speaks English, makes his bargain with the planter, delivers his crew in a truck with a Texas motor license, checks the cotton weighing, collects the money, and pays out shares to the pickers. Mexican women have community duties; some care for babies, some cook. One Mexican drove the truck They were good cotton-picking teams. But the need for them grows less with the increasing mechanization of Louisiana plantations. Because of mechanization, too, the share-cropper and tenant farmer are becoming day laborers. They've lost croppers' credit at the country store. They get no pay if they don't work. Their work lessens. They become migratory workers.

"There are children of families on the road today, who never slept or ate a meal in a house in their lives, never went to school. Schools where they stop for temporary work won't take them. They spend their lives in trucks and jaloppies, in ditches and tents. But their parents once had homes.

"Lack of residence should be no barrier to relief for a jobless worker seeking work. He should have hospital service; his children should have schooling. He helps pay taxes, sales taxes, gasoline taxes, truck license taxes. He gets nothing for it, not even a job. With 400,000 more soon to be driven onto the roads in Dixie by increased mechanization, this is becoming a serious problem."

LABOR -- 1940
MIGRATION MOVEMENT

Montgomery, Ala., Advertiser
August 11, 1940

Lot Of Migrant In Southeast To Be Scrutinized

Congressional Hearing Opening In Capital This Week

The plight of the "removal migrant," the individual who goes from "here to there" in the hope of a job or a better job and finds when he gets "there" that the competition is so keen he must move on to some other place, will be brought under the scrutiny of a special Congressional committee investigating the interstate migration of destitute citizens here this week.

According to Dr. Robert K. Lamb chief investigator for the committee who arrived yesterday to begin preparations for the hearing, Alabama and the deep South are of especial importance in this study because so much of the nation's migration originates in this section. Southern people, he said, begin their wanderings as "removal migrants." They believe that by leaving their homes and going into other sections they will find profitable employment.

The "removal" migrant, said Dr Lamb, all too often in the course of a few months or years becomes a "seasonal" migrant—the kind with no home, no property, no place to go except to follow the ripening crops—digging potatoes or threshing wheat as the opportunity offers, a habitual wanderer.

The Montgomery hearing will seek to get the facts on the young people who must leave the South in search of jobs and will study the forces responsible for this "removal migration."

Settlement Rights

Another problem to be brought before the committee will be the loss of settlement and thereby of relief rights of the migrant citizen. A person loses his settlement in some states after an absence of six months to one year. In others he must be a resident as long as three to five years to be eligible for relief. Thousands of American citizens, it is understood, are becoming permanently disfranchised by this difference. Uniform Federal laws on settlement have been suggested. Action awaits the evidence to be brought out at the hearings to be conducted in all sections of the United States.

Work of the investigating committee began in April. It has not been retarded on account of the war situation because, said Dr. Lamb, to be strong and vigorous for defense this nation must have its population situation in good order.

The area to be considered at the Montgomery hearing, beginning Wednesday, includes Alabama, Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, Tennessee, Mississippi, Louisiana and eastern Arkansas.

Witnesses

Representative John H. Tolan, California, is chairman of the committee. Expert and administrative witnesses who will testify here in addition to 10 white and colored migrants are: Dr. A. B. McCreary, State health officer, Jacksonville, Fla.; Clarence R. Bitting, president U. S. Sugar Corporation, Clewiston, Fla.; P. O. Davis, Alabama Extension Service director, Auburn; Dr. Harold Hoffsommer, professor of rural sociology, Louisiana State University; Prof. T. M. Campbell, field agent U. S. Department of Agriculture, Tuskegee; A. Frederick Smith, chief of research and statistics Florida Industrial Commission; Dr. Rupert B. Vance, professor of sociology, University of North Carolina; Dr. L. N. Duncan, president of Alabama Polytechnic Institute; John Beecher, supervisor of migratory labor camps of FSA in Florida; H. L. Mitchell, secretary of Southern Tenant Farmers Union, Memphis; John Rust, inventor of Rust Cotton picker, Memphis; John E. Bryan, State NYA administrator, Birmingham; Howard Stovall, Delta Council, Stoneville, Miss.; Myron Falk, executive secretary, Louisiana Department of Public Welfare; Dr. F. D. Patterson, president Tuskegee Institute; Prof. Preston Valien, Fisk University; Miss Loula Dunn, Alabama commissioner of Public Welfare; E. S. Morgan, regional director FSA, Montgomery; E. M. Norment, Tennessee Employment Service; Dr. H. H. Chapman, Bureau of Business Research, University of Alabama; Dr. R. L. Johns, Alabama Department of Education; John Dulaney, mayor of Pahokee, Fla.

Tolan Arrives For Hearings On Migration

Advertiser

Situation In Southeast To Be Presented Before Committee Here

8-14-40

Montgomery Ala.

The first congressional committee of its kind in the history of the United States will open a hearing here this morning to study the interstate migration of destitute citizens.

Representative John Tolan, California, chairman of the committee, said yesterday: "We don't know the answers. The problem becomes more appalling with the increase of millions of wanderers in this country every year. The committee hopes by holding these hearings in various sections, questioning expert population and social workers, hearing the stories of the migrants themselves and studying all the facts we can get hold of to learn the answers. From these facts remedial legislation will be suggested."

This State as a potential source of migrants is of especial interest to Representative John Sparkman, Alabama member of the committee. With its limited opportunities for youth, its tenant farming and its large cotton areas being turned into cattle ranges migration away from Alabama is becoming an increasing problem. How great a problem this presents and how best it can be corrected the committee hopes to learn in the course of the three-day investigation.

Mechanizing of farms in this section, where for generations the system has been one of hand labor employing tenants and share croppers, is driving many off the land into cities or to other sections of the country where they have little chance for rehabilitation. Men of this class, representatives of families who still operate small farms but are obliged to leave their homes for a portion of each year to supplement their meager incomes by such seasonal labor as they can find and those who eke out a precarious existence by "following" crops will give their side of the migrant problem.

The Montgomery hearings will be followed by investigations at Chicago, Lincoln, Oklahoma City and San Francisco.

Farm Workers Set Adrift

News 8-14-40 Birmingham Ala.

Few sociological problems in the United States today surpass in magnitude the growing problem of migratory farm wokers—the farmers, many of them once well established and well-to-do, and the agricultural laborers, the "hired hands," who have been cut loose from permanent moorings to the soil and set adrift by natural and economic forces against which they have been powerless.

These farmers and farm laborers are now going about the country from place to place, particularly in certain sections, living as best they can, and picking up what work they can get—usually agricultural work on a day-labor basis, because they are mostly unsuited for any other kind of work.

Their own plight is pitiable. But that is not the only serious aspect of the situation; these hordes of roving farm workers endanger the economic stability and the general wellbeing of communities or sections upon which they descend in any considerable numbers. They create acute relief problems for some communities and states; they bring about an excessive labor supply in some places which plays havoc with working conditions; they sometimes cause critical problems of public health and education.

The American people have learned, from the printed page, from the moving picture screen, and from the radio, a good deal about this grave human problem, which seems to be growing steadily worse. What the American people have not yet learned—and no one seems to know so far—is the solution to this problem of migratory laborers.

A special congressional committee is now investigating this situation, and its inquiries should be especially interesting to Alabamians because it is conducting some of its hearings in Montgomery, beginning today. For three days this committee, of which Representative John H. Tolan, of California, is chairman, will hear testimony from various kinds of witnesses on the extent of this migrancy, its nature, its causes and its possible remedies. Among the witnesses will be several of these migrant workers, who will tell their own stories. Other witnesses will include educators, economists and agricultural experts.

Representative Sparkman, of Alabama, is one of the five members of the Tolan committee. It is not merely for this reason, however, that the group is conducting a series of hearings in Alabama; it is also due to the fact that this section of the country—not Alabama alone so much as the Southeast as a whole, and particularly Florida—is being increasingly affected by population shifts which have set these migrant workers adrift.

It is very appropriate that this congressional committee should be headed by a representative from California, because that state has been affected more than any other by the "Okies," as these drifters have been named. Perhaps next to California in this respect comes Florida, where migratory farm labor has created almost incredible conditions in some communities.

Naturally, practically all states are affected more or less, directly or indirectly, by this shifting population. The states which border upon those most affected, as Alabama and Georgia border upon Florida, feel considerable effects of the movements into and out of Florida. And, of course, though on a smaller scale, some communities in Alabama have their own problems of this kind irrespective of the drift to and from Florida.

Even if a state were not itself affected directly in the least, however, it should not lack interest in this problem. For it is a national problem, and a very serious one. It is to be hoped the hearings of the Tolan committee, in Montgomery and elsewhere, will produce findings that will help to remedy the situation.

Okies in Chicago

THE investigation conducted by the House Committee on migratory workers in Chicago has revealed a dismal picture to the public on the subject of "how the other half lives." The state of Illinois learned that the state of California has no monopoly on the "Okies" referred to in Steinback's GRAPES OF WRATH. It too has some "Okies' who come here as a place of refuge to seek protection from economic and social pressure.

Of significance to Illinois Negroes was the stand taken by Mayor Edward J. Kelly when he told the committee that the three year residence law requirement for the indigent was unjust and caused a lot of good people to get in trouble.

That law was passed by the 1939 session of the General Assembly. It provides that the state will not give aid to any person applying for relief unless he has been a resident of Illinois for three continuous years prior to his application. Some say the law was passed for the purpose of dissuading southern Negroes from being attracted here by charity. If it was it certainly has worked havoc with a lot of whites without affecting the constant stream of Negroes to the state. To that extent it missed its purpose.

The law has made suffer many an indigent person. Take, for instance, the woman who testified before the Migratory House Committee that she was born in this state and went to Florida for nine months. The relief authorities there sent her back to Illinois claiming she was a resident of this state. Illinois relief authorities turn her application for aid down on the ground that nine months away had upset her residence in the state.

The law should be abolished. It can only make the lot of the poor man more difficult. A hungry man needs food whether he has lived here three years or three months. If he can not get it by fair means then he may resort to other ways.

Cutting Case Causes Mass Roundup

By BOB QUEEN, JR.

TRENTON, N. J.—New Jersey and Pennsylvania have joined hands in a wholesale roundup of migrant Negro workers as the result of the mysterious slashing of a young Italian woman last week, while seated with her husband on Tyburn Road near Oxford Valley in Bucks County, Pennsylvania.

Mrs. Clare Tranotti 19 years old, of 1532 Princeton Ave., Trenton, was slashed a half dozen times about the body and across the face. The victim told the Pennsylvania State Police that it was a "Negro" that committed the assault. The husband, Joseph Tranotti, supposedly ran for help, leaving his wife at the mercy of the assaulter. It was later revealed that the Tranottis had been secretly married.

In the meantime, Trenton police are declaring war on migrant Negroes whom they declare are making a nuisance of themselves. Twelve were arrested and six were given jail terms. All of these men come from Florida and Georgia.

Local colored citizens, incensed over the matter, have requested both the Pennsylvania sttae police and the Trenton police to cease the mass roundup of Negroes until a thorough investigation is made concerning the Tranotti case. "An investigation will be made, police promised.

Mrs. Tranotti is reported to be improving at the St. Francis Hospital in Trenton.

"Grapes of Wrath" Existence Of Migratory Workers Bared; Forced To Live In "Hog Pens"

Work (When They Can) For $2 To $4 A Week, 14 To 16 Hours Daily; Kept Under Armed Guard; N. J. Surveyed

By EDGAR T. ROUZEAU
Staff Correspondent

NEW YORK—John Steinbeck's "Grapes of Wrath" has met its counterpart in the migration from the South of thousands of Negro farmhands who have become community problems in New York and New Jersey after working for short seasons in the potato-growing areas of southern New Jersey under conditions akin to peonage.

The responsibility of federal and state governments as it relates to these destitute migratory workers was being weighed this week by a congressional committee which began hearings Monday morning in the Federal Court Building here.

Harold A. Lett, director of the New Jersey Urban League, and Lester A. Granger, former chairman of the New Jersey Legislative Commission on Conditions Among Negroes, were among those slated to testify. The congressional committee headed by Representative John H. Tolan of California, was scheduled to sit from Monday to Wednesday.

LURED FROM SOUTH

Involved in this migratory problem are about 5,000 Italians, about 85 per cent of whom were drawn from Philadelphia. In the main, however, the problem relates to thousands upon thousands of Negro farmhands who have been lured to New Jersey on the promise of high wages.

These Negro "oakies" generally dispose of their homes and belongings in the South and come North in dilapidated autos and trucks.

They meet with disillusion upon arriving in Mercer, Mommouth, Middlesex counties, comprising the important New Jersey potato farm district.

UNDER ARMED GUARD

They are put to work at from $2 to $4 a week in wages. They work from fourteen to sixteen hours a day and are made to live in shanties little better than hog pens.

They are kept under armed guard during the farming season, and when free they usually drift to New York or frequent nearby New Jersey towns where they usually become community problems.

N. J. OFFICIALS' VIEW

There is evidence that New Jersey state officials are not in sympathy with present conditions because few whites are involved. This was brought out in a speech by Chairman Tolan, of the Congressional Committee, after a weekend inspection trip to cranberry bogs near New Lisbon, N. J., and extensive potato farms near Bridgeton and West Freehold.

He asked state officials to make no attempt to solve "the migrant problem in New Jersey by denying that it exists."

W. H. Allen, New Jersey state secretary of agriculture, had previously taken the stand that New Jersey was in need of migrant labor for its crops. He and other state officials voiced their belief that most of these workers have homes of their own to which they return when the season is over.

FOUR WEEKS OF WORK

Frank C. Osmers, Jr., New Jersey representative and a member of the congressional committee, pointed out that "potatoes all come ripe within a period of four weeks." He added this warning:

"We can't have people standing around 48 weeks a year to get a job for four weeks. The purpose of this committee is to find out how the federal government can help the people of New Jersey in meeting problems caused by this mirgant labor."

MAKE FINGERPRINTS

With the arrival of the congressional committee the New Jersey state police announced plans to start voluntary finger printing of the laborers. The state department of health also launched a campaign to test migratory workers for venereal diseases.

The department has assigned a special Negro health unit, headed by Dr. J. Earle Stuart of Plainfield, to examine the migrants for tuberculosis.

Among those scheduled to testify at the hearings before the congressional committee were:

Prof. Frank Lorimer of the American University at Washington, D. C.

Miss Bertha McCall, executive secretary of the National Travelers Aid Society.

Ralph Astrotsky, social welfare director.

George C. Krueger, deputy labor commissioner in New Jersey.

Frank Goodhue, deputy welfare commissioner in Massachusetts.

Clayton S. Squires, state aid director of Connecticut.

David C. Adle, social welfare commissioner of New York state.

Miss Edith Lowry, executive secretary of the Council of Women for Home Missions.

Representative Caroline O'Day of New York.

James C. Ewart, vice president of New Jersey state board of agriculture.

Col John Allen of the Salvation Army in New York City.

OTHER HEARINGS

Temporary headquarters for the committee were set up at 146 Grand Street, New York. After the hearings here the committee will move to other parts of the country where migratory problems exist.

Hearings are scheduled for Montgomery, Ala., August 14 to 16; Chicago, August 19 to 21; Lincoln, Nebrask, September 18 to 20; Oklahoma, September 23 to 25; San Francisco, September 27 to 28, and [illegible]les, October 1.

[illegible]earings may develop be[illegible]ess receives the committ[illegible] in January.

LABOR- 1940
MIGRATION MOVEMENT

Rural South Losing People and Wealth

MR. C. F. Reynolds, Jr., has an interesting article on "Rural Migration" in the current University of Virginia News Letter. He points out that the nation's rural population was reduced through migration between 1920 and 1930 by 5,734,200 persons, a total loss of $17,000,000,000 to the rural areas. Assuming, he pointed out, that the average person who pulls up stakes and leaves the country and goes to town has reached the age of 20, the investment in him in the matter of schooling, medical care and clothing, to say nothing of food, amounts to $3,000. Thus the nearly six million migrants represent an investment loss of 17 billion dollars. That is for the entire nation.

The arresting part of this disclosure, where the south is concerned, is that while the south represents a relatively small portion of the geographical area of the nation, 60 per cent of rural migration during the decade was from the south, causing ten and one-half billion dollars of the loss to fall on this region. The annual loss of human assets to the rural areas of the south, between 1920 and 1930 was more than one billion dollars, says Mr. Reynolds.

Nashville, Tenn. Banner
August 1, 1940

Committee Classifies Wandering Job-Seekers

New York, Aug. 1—(AP)—A Congressional committee investigating migration of destitute citizens placed in three classifications today the types of wandering job-seekers most common in the United States.

Representative Tolan (Dem., Calif.), committee chairman, said these were the seasonal agricultural migrant; the migrant from Puerto Rico who comes to New York; and the Southern Negro.

The committee wound up its New York hearings yesterday and prepared to move on for other hearings later in the month at Montgomery, Ala., and the West.

Has Northward Trek of Negroes Halted? Census Will Find Out

Among thousands of interesting facts which the census of 1940 will bring to light will be an answer to the question which Negro sociologists have been asking since the last census in 1930.

That question is: Are Negroes still migrating northward from the Southern sections of this country as rapidly as they did between the years 1920 and 1930?

The greatest change in the distribution of the Negro race within the United States since 1790 occurred in the decade 1920-30—a marked shift northward involving nearly a million persons.

In 1920 the total Negro population of the South was 8,912,231—85.2 per cent of all the colored people in the country living in this region. By 1930 this total had risen a little to 9,361,577, but this represented only 78.7 per cent of the total colored population.

The North, on the other hand, had only 14.1 per cent of the total Negro population in 1920 — a total of 1,472,309 persons. By 1930 it had 2,409,219—an increase to 20.3 per cent.

Whether this increase in the North at the expense of the South has continued since that time will not be known definitely until the results of the census are announced late this year.

Charleston, S. C. News & Courier
August 19, 1939

JERSEY TO FIGHT NEGRO MIGRATION

Governor Moore Contends Serious Problems are Caused by Influx

Trenton, N. J., Aug. 18.—(U.P.): The annual influx of Southern negro farm workers to potato-raising areas of New Jersey has created serious relief, law enforcement, labor and health problems, Governor A. Harry Moore said today, announcing that he would take some action to curtail the migration.

At Cranbury last week, a dozen white men attempted to frighten seven Georgia negroes out of the state by evicting them from a shack, daubing some of them with white paint, firing over their heads and ordered them to "head back South where you belong".

Moore said he would confer with police, the attorney general and agriculture department officials in order to evolve a plan for regulating migration of the negroes from Southern cotton fields in order to conserve farm work for local residents.

800,000 Moved Northward in Ten Years

Baltimore Afro-American
3-2-40

WASHINGTON.

A total of 809,000 colored persons migrated from the South to sixteen cities in the years, 1930-30. What will the 1940 census figures show?

Here are the migration figures for the sixteen cities for 1930:

Chicago	165,867
New York	145,370
Philadelphia	140,381
Detroit	88,443
Washington	73,072
Baltimore	52,234
Cleveland	46,974
Pittsburgh	29,726
Newark	26,620
Winston-Salem	13,058
Richmond	8,338
Jersey City	8,053
Boston	7,567
Wilmington, Del.	2,646
Charleston, W.Va.	1,116
Charleston, S.C.	478

Breakdowns of these figures shows that migrants from Virginia and Carolina like New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore and Washington best.

Those from Georgia and Tennessee like Detroit and Chicago

Raleigh, N. C. News & Observer
May 3, 1940

Darkest Migration

The tragedy in which so large a part of the Negro race in the United States is caught is pointed with clarity and wisdom by *The Pittsburgh Courier*, a large Negro newspaper, in an editorial discussion of the Negro migrations from the South to the North which has extended over a long period of years.

The Courier predicts a marked increase in the migration as a result of "the further collapse of the cotton economy which all government efforts have failed to prevent." But *The Courier* observes the Negroes "are coming to cities where already from 40 to 50 per cent of the Negro population is receiving relief and unable to get employment."

There is a human tragedy here equal to that more widely publicized one of dispossessed white farmers moving from desperation in Oklahoma to bitter insecurity in California. In describing the situation in the South from which Negroes are moving, *The Courier* adds:

This low price cannot help but hurt the American cotton grower. In seeking for other means of maintaining the economic standards of life, the South has been encouraging by every means the industrialization of the region, making attractive offers to manufacturers to establish more mills and factories. The new Southern industries are employing only a small number of the Negro workers displaced by the change in the status of cotton, and in many factories no Negroes at all are employed.

This, coupled with the inadequate relief payments to unemployed Negro workers, is the cause of the growing migration of these people to the North and East.

This is a fair statement of the situation as Southerners realize. Perhaps the situation to which they go is more complex but none the less disturbing. Obviously, between both the almost hopeless condition of thousands of Negroes, moving but to no destination in opportunity, is a national problem deserving the most sympathetic national consideration. There are 12,000,000 Negroes in America. The almost general poverty of so many people is a load not merely upon relief but upon our whole economy, North and South. Improvement in the security of such a group—a widening of its opportunities for employment — would serve not only the Negroes of America but all the white people in all parts of America as well.

If there is a tragic human problem No. 1 it is that of the Negro in the United States—in the great cities as well as on the farms.

Congressmen Seek Answer To Southern Youth Leaving Home

Birmingham News
8-12-40

Why They Go Elsewhere To Earn Living To Be Studied At Hearing

MONTGOMERY, Ala.—(AP)—Reasons why thousands of Southern youths go to other states to earn their living after obtaining their education at home will be sought by a special congressional committee at a hearing on migration here Aug. 14.

Dr. Robert K. Lamb, the committee's chief investigator, said Saturday "the business of the South exporting millions in educated youth" would be among the phases of the huge migrant problem studied. Dr. Lamb described youth migration as "a serious problem."

However, that is only one phase of the nation-wide study. Educators, economists and laborers from several Southern states have been summoned to present their views, and possibly recommend remedial legislation.

At the Montgomery hearing, Lamb said, the congressional group expects to delve into the economic or other forces which send those families to other regions in search of better opportunities. Later, at hearings in Chicago and other sections factors drawing migrants from the South will be studied.

Macon, Ga., Telegraph
June 3, 1940

Why Negroes Left Farms

You ask why the farms have been deserted by the Negroes, and you get your answer by asking why the white men went to town. Of course, the dole precipitated the crisis; but the change had been coming gradually for many years. It really started back at the beginning of the World War, when Northern industry sought Negro labor to take the places made vacant by army enlistments; the time when Southern states had to pass laws forbidding solicitation by labor agents from other states. Georgia put such a law in her code.

But even so, the coming of labor-saving machinery would have kept the farms from being abandoned, if the smaller number of Negroes had received a little better treatment in the country. Some of them were told they were expected to feed and clothe a large family on fifty or seventy-five cents a day, and they were denied the special patches that had been allowed to slaves in a former period; many had no chance to raise a pig or a calf or a chicken. They just couldn't make a living in the country.

Some few of them received better treatment, and have bought their own lands and houses, and are doing well; but a majority of them have not been able to work themselves up.

Another compelling reason for their shift to town was lack of schooling in the country. They were not given consolidated schools and facilities for reaching them. The reason was plain. The counties wanted to save the extra expense of transportation; but it would have been worth-while for the sake of keeping the labor on the farms. A producer is worth money to any community, and but for human labor this country would still be a wilderness.

Schools have always been regarded as important, and nearly every new settlement sought to attract other people by offering educational advantages. When white men couldn't get such advantages for their children, they went to a more progressive community. And Negroes have not been unmindful of such things. Many of them are ambitious for their children, and white people have recognized for the most part the importance of encouraging that ambition. Society is affected by the lowest as well as the highest of its members, and both extremes must be reckoned with in finding the average. A good Negro is a good citizen, and given a proper showing he is likely to want to be both educated and good.

Some worth-while Negroes are yet living in the country, and are trying to stay there. They know it is the best place in the world for them if they can only get a living. The complaint that the federal government has ruined so many of them that the labor problem is to remain with us always is hardly justified except in a limited number of instances. The Negroes have always been valuable laborers in this country. They have their faults, but who hasn't? They have proven through many generations that they can be made the best kind of friends for the white men.

Those Negroes in distress in the towns and cities could cultivate all of the unused farms in the state. If they don't go back to the farms, who is going? And what is keeping them from going? The prevailing wage. But the farmers say they can't pay more, and can't do any better part by labor. Well, that is what is stopping the plows, and sending the Negroes to even a harder life in town.

Who can solve the problem?

Not the Negro.

TENANT SYSTEM WILL BE STUDIED

Congressional Committee To Check On Migrants

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Aug. 13—(AP)—The tenant farm system, blamed for many Southern economic ills, will be brought before a congressional committee here tomorrow on charges of contributing to the creation of destitute migrants.

The committee, headed by Representative Tolan (D., Calif.), is probing the economic forces that cause population shifts, with the view to recommending remedial legislation.

Tolan said on arrival today the body already had established that approximately 4,000,000 are moving annually from state to state, looking for work, and he and his colleagues intended in the three-day hearings here to establish the causes of such migration in the South.

In addition to investigating the part farm tenancy plays in the situation, he said the committee would delve into erosion and other causes for persons being unable to obtain economic security in their established locations.

Among witnesses to be heard are four actual migrants who will relate the stories of their lives and travels. Other witnesses will include educators, economists and agricultural experts who will report on conditions in the south that might lead to future population shifts.

Members of the committee are Tolan, Representatives Sparkman (D., Ala.), Parsons (D., Ill.), Curtis (R., Neb.), and Osmers (R., N. J.), each representing a section involved in the migratory problem.

NEW JERSEY FARM CONDITIONS AIRED; LAGUARDIA LISTENS

Courier 8-10-40 Pittsburgh Pa.

By TED POSTON
Staff Correspondent

NEW YORK, Aug. 8—The deplorable condition of thousands of Southern-born New Jersey migratory workers, exposed by The Pittsburgh Courier last year as a result of the Cranbury floggings, was spread on a Federal record last week at a three-day hearing of a Congressional committee here.

The herding of Negro workers into trucks like cattle, the squalid living quarters, the practice of actual peonage in this northern State and the attempts of Jersey officials to ignore the situation was brought out in testimony before the committee headed by Congressman John H. Tolan of California.

The workers, recruited in the South, are brought to Jersey to assist in harvesting the potato crops. Solicited by labor contractors with glowing tales of high wages in the North, they often are forced to work for as little as $2 a week and then are left destitute at the close of the season.

PRACTICE DESCRIBED AS "ABSOLUTELY REVOLTING"

The cattle-like transportation of the workers was described by Arthur J. Edwards, a Montclair social worker, Wednesday in the hearing room in the U. S. courthouse on Foley Square, here.

"The practices are absolutely revolting," he said, "The people are packed into the trucks like cattle down in Georgia, Florida and other Southern states and the drivers only stop for fuel on the long, gruelling trips North."

Mr. Edwards then told how the workers are forced to live in abandoned chicken houses, tumbledown shacks and other hovels. The social worker suggested that the Federal Government establish a camp at Port Norris, N. J., where more than 1,000 of these stranded Negroes have established a permanent colony around the oyster fishing beds.

CONDITIONS AT PORT NORRIS "SOREST SPOT"

The squalid conditions at Port Norris constituted the sorest spot in the State, Harold A. Lett, Newark executive secretary of the New Jersey Urban league, testified later. Disease is rampant in the colony, he said, and the Negroes are forced to live in the worst shacks imaginable. The Federal Government has already established camps for migratory farm workers in Texas.

Another migratory problem, the enticing of Negro domestics from the South, was described by Mrs. Jane Maxwell, one of eight women brought from Savannah, Ga., in a car in 1937.

Workers are brought to New York and other communities, she said and left stranded soon after their arrival. Such exploitation is easy, Mrs. Maxwell contended, because of the low wages given domestic workers in the South.

"SWEAT SHOP" PROBLEMS SHIFTED TO FARM FIELDS

Congresswoman Caroline O'Day described how the migratory problem has shifted the sweat shop for children from industry to the farm fields. Ninety per cent of the children who work on the New Jersey truck farms with their parents are retarded or illiterate, she said.

Although Negroes constitute the bulk of the migratory workers, problems of other groups, Italians, Poles, American Indians, Puerto Ricans, were described by witnesses.

The Pittsburgh Courier exposed the Jersey situation last year in a survey which followed the flogging of nine Negro migratory workers near Cranbury.

The Congressional committee, which is studying the migratory problem all over the United States, will continue its hearing next week in Alabama, and then move out to the West and California.

Mayor LaGuardia, also a witness at the hearing, urged Federal action to meet the problem.

West Palm Beach, Fla. Times
July 31, 1940

Migrant Labor Camp Construction Starts

PAHOKEE.—Edward S. Moore & Sons, St. Petersburg contractors, have started work on the construction of the 60-acre negro migratory labor camp being built two miles south of Pahokee by the Farm Security Administration. FSA expects to have the camp completed and ready for occupancy by the last of February. It has been named Camp Everglades.

At present the four main 1,200-foot streets running east and west have been laid off, graded and equipped with cement sewer pipe for drainage. The two connecting streets, one at each end of the camp, are now under construction. Stakes have been driven on the site of each of the 149 duplex shelters which are to house the labor families, two families to each shelter. These shelters are to be of frame construction. Three types of shelter will have dimensions of 20x29 feet and a fourth type for larger families will be 23.5x29 feet. Four of these shelters are now under construction.

Piling has been driven for several of the community buildings, which are to be built partly of wood and partly of reenforced concrete. They include hose cart houses, an assembly building, clinic, nursery, school, administration building, utility building, isolation utility building, comfort stations and showers and a manager's dwelling. In addition the camp will have a space reserved in the northwest corner for a playground, ahtletic field and baseball diamond. A bridge has been completed and an approach is now being built to the main entrance of the camp which is located on Belle Glade Road opposite to A. N. Kennedy's quarters.

The white migratory labor camp, to be located a quarter of a mile south of Pahokee, will be called Camp Pahokee. The Southeastern Manufacturing Company of Tuscaloosa, Ala., has the contract to build this camp. It will be smaller and its plan of lay-out will be different from that of Camp Everglades. It is reported that work is being held up on this camp because of certain difficulties in clearing the title to its site

LABOR 1940
MIGRATION MOVEMENT

Birmingham, Ala. News
August 14, 1940

Remedy Is Suggested For Ills Attending Migrant Farm Labor

Market Discrimination Is Blamed By One Witness At Montgomery

BY HUGH SPARROW
Birmingham News Staff Writer

MONTGOMERY, Ala.—The cause of farm migration in Alabama and elsewhere in the nation was laid to "the disadvantage to which farmers have been subjected in the market place" by Howard Gray, Alabama Farm Bureau Federation president, in a paper read today to a special congressional committee investigating the migrant farmer problem.

"When we achieve parity and do away with most of his discrimination, farm life will be as attractive as any other alternative," said Mr. Gray, "and it is my belief that migration because of this fact will be reduced to a minimum."

Gray was one of several witnesses before the committee hearing which opened in Federal Court rooms this morning. The hearing in Montgomery is the latest of several regional investigations being made by the committee before it reports to Congress with recommendations.

The committee is headed by Representative John H. Colan (D., Calif.) and is composed of Representatives John J. Sparkman (D., Ala.); Clark Parsons (D., Ill.), Frank Osmers (R., N. J.) and Earl Curtis (R., Neb.). Representative Osmers was not present when the hearing opened.

Testimony from educators, farm authorities and other experts on the migrant farmer problem in the Southeast and from parts of Louisiana, Arkansas and Missouri will be taken during the three-day hearing here.

Mr. Gray was preceded by Dr. L. N. Duncan, president of Auburn, who represented Gov. Dixon before the hearing, and briefly welcomed the investigators and expressed hope the meeting would result in much progress in solving the problem of farm migration.

Dr. Rupert Vance, University of North Carolina sociology professor and long-time student of the Southern farm problem followed Gray with a lengthy analysis. The problem was discussed from various economic angles, the speaker expressing the view that "I for one feel we are faced with the long-time problem of reconstructing an out-moded cotton economy." Unless some progress is made toward agricultural reconstruction, Dr. Vance added, "the pressure toward migration will be great indeed."

Other speakers heard during the morning were P. O. Davis, director of the Alabama State Extension Service, and T. M. Campbell, field agent of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, stationed at Tuskegee Institute.

"Undoubtedly people move because the opportunities elsewhere seem to be more attractive," Mr. Gray told the committee in his paper today. "If we are to deal successfully with the problem of migrating farmers, we must arrest that movement in its inception by making farming more attractive and by raising the standard of living for the farm people.

"There can be little stability of tenure, which is the opposite of migration, unless the incomes of the farms are adequate to support the farms and the people with a standard of living comparable with that that can be obtained in other lines or in other places by these people. The problem, therefore, largely centers in the problem of income.

"Permit me to point out that in 1939 the average farm income in Alabama from marketings both crops and livestock was only $310. In addition to this, government benefit payments amounted roughly to $100 a farm. With an average of four or five people to a family, it is not difficult to understand why $310 for farm marketings is wholly inadequate to furnish a standard of living sufficient to retain farmers on their farms.

"Our major problem in Alabama so far in maintaining the farm population on the land is caused by the low prices received for those products produced on the land. With our major crop, cotton, bringing only approximately 56 per cent of parity and those products which we must purchase bringing 123 per cent of parity, you can readily see why we, as farm people, have a most difficult problem trying to secure a decent living.

"Even with the addition of benefit payments which Congress has most wisely made available during the past seven years, the farmer's income from his cotton is only now approximately 71 per cent of parity."

The speaker declared, however, that farming "offers many advantages which do not appear in income figures," and added that it is true now just as it has been in the past that the future of America rests in the land.

He suggested that "one of three roads" must be taken by farm people "hand in hand with their federal government:

"1. Higher prices per unit on whatever products they produce or

"2. Lower prices per unit for those things which they must buy or

"3. Since there is apparently a limit to the amount of our agricultural products that the world will take, even at our presently relatively low prices, the income from the sale of these products will have to be divided among fewer people."

Conditions closely identical to those which caused the Oakies to descend on a forbidding land of milk and honey in the Steinbeck novel, "The Grapes of Wrath," were expected to be outlined by the 17 scheduled to testify here.

Soil erosion and deterioration, crop overproduction, market shrinkages and mechanical innovations closing the door to the farm laborer are listed among the specific problems to be discussed during the regional meeting here, according to committee members.

Similar problems have been aired during meetings in other sections of the United States and when the regional session are concluded the committee expects to report back to Congress and recommend corrective legislation.

That the problem of the migrant farmer is a national one, rather than one for the states to cope with individually was the assumption back of the appointment of the special House committee.

Representative Tolan said here today the committee might complete its inquiry within two days, but that the committee schedule makes provision for a third day, Friday, if necessary.

In addition to Mr. Gray, Dr. Vance and other morning witnesses, the other witnesses expected to be heard here are John Rust, Memphis, inventor of the mechanical cotton picker; Dr. F. D. Patterson, president of Tuskegee; Dr. Harold Hoffsomer, Louisiana State University; Presto Valie, social science department, Fisk University, Nashville; Oscar Johnston, Memphis, National Cotton Council president; James Hand, Stoneville, Miss., Delta council member; President W. L. Mitchell, Southern Tenant Farmers Union, Memphis; George Fort Milton, Chattanooga publisher; Howard Gray, Montgomery, Alabama Farm Bureau Federation president; E. M. Norment, Memphis, district manager, Tennessee State Employment Service; Harold Wall, Tallahassee, Florida State Industrial Council chairman; John Veeches, supervisor of FSA migrant labor camps in Florida; Dr. H. H. Chapman, University of Alabama, and Milton Falk, Louisiana State Welfare Department executive secretary.

Gadsden, Ala., Times
August 14, 1940

Solons Study Farm Tenancy

Congressional Group Meets In Montgomery For Economic Survey

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Aug. 14—(AP)—A congressional committee scrutinized farm tenancy today as a contributor to the South's economic ills.

The committee, headed by Rep. Tolan, Democrat, California, opened a three-day hearing to which migrant workers, educators, economists and agronomists were invited.

Tolan said the tenant farm system was being examined as a factor in economic circumstances that cause approximately 4,000,000 U. S. workers to move annually from state to state seeking employment.

The congressmen also will study soil erosion and other possible obstacles to farm workers obtaining economic security in established locations.

Four migrant workers were asked to tell of their lives and travels before the committee. Others to appear included Dr. L. N. Duncan, president of Alabama Polytechnic Institute; Howard Gray, president of the Alabama Farm Bureau Federation; Dr. Rupert B. Vance, University of North Carolina; P. O. Davis, Alabama extension director; Prof. T. M. Campbell, Tuskegee Institute; Dr. Harold Hoffsommer, Louisiana State University; and Clarence R. Bitting, United States Sugar Corp., Clewiston, Fla.

Huntsville, Ala., Times
August 14, 1940

Farm Desertion Is Told By Gray

Madison Countian Chief Witness Before Congress Committee

MONTGOMERY, August 14 (AP)—Ruralists are pulling up and leaving the soil to become migrant workers, because of "the disadvantage to which farmers have been subjected in the market place," Howard Gray, president of the Alabama Farm Bureau Federation, told a congressional committee investigating interstate migration of destitute citizens here today.

"If we are to deal successfully with the problem of migrating farmers," Gray said, "we must arrest that movement in its inception by making farming more attractive, and by raising the standard of living for the farm people."

As a means of accomplishing this, the federation president declared that the 71 per cent of parity, which Southern farmers received for cotton, must be raised nearer the 123 per cent of parity which they must pay for products they buy.

Without government benefit payments, Gray said, cotton was bringing only 56 per cent of parity.

"Permit me to point out," he continued, "that in 1939 the average cash farm income in Alabama from marketing of both crops and livestock was only $310. In addition to this, government benefit payments amounted roughly to $100 per farm.

"With an average of more than five people per family, it is not difficult to understand why $310 from farm marketings is wholly inadequate to furnish a standard of living sufficient to retain farmers on their farms."

On questioning by Rep. Tolan (D-Cal.), Gray said it was his opinion a similar condition prevailed throughout the Southeast.

"When we have done away with the tremendous disparity between price received and price paid, it is our belief, Gray continued, "that the farmers will be able to improve their farms and homes, or perhaps undertake to purchase a farm, and in that way become more securely tied to the land."

Mechanization, the Alabama farm leader declared, has displaced "very, very little" farm labor, except in the Tennessee Valley and scattered localities lending themselves to this type of cultivation.

"But," Gray asserted, "we are going to have to do more and more of this, apparently, to bring the unit cost of production down."

Dr. Rupert Vance, of the University of North Carolina, testified more than 3,400,000 persons had migrated from the South to other areas, and that almost as many had left farms for Southern industrial centers.

The North Carolinian described migration as an economic necessity.

"Such movements," he declared, "are necessary to develop, maintain and stabilize the national economy.

"The economic order is continually adjusting and readjusting

LABOR 1940
MIGRATION MOVEMENT

Birmingham, Ala. News
August 14, 1940

Remedy Is Suggested For Ills Attending Migrant Farm Labor

Market Discrimination Is Blamed By One Witness At Montgomery

BY HUGH SPARROW
Birmingham News Staff Writer

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Mr. Gray was preceded by Dr. L. N. Duncan, president of Auburn, who represented Gov. Dixon before the hearing, and briefly welcomed the investigators and expressed hope the meeting would result in much progress in solving the problem of farm migration.

Dr. Rupert Vance, University of North Carolina sociology professor and long-time student of the Southern farm problem followed Gray with a lengthy analysis. The problem was discussed from various economic angles, the speaker expressing the view that "I for one feel we are faced with the long-time problem of reconstructing an out-moded cotton economy." Unless some progress is made toward agricultural reconstruction, Dr. Vance added, "the pressure toward migration will be great indeed."

Other speakers heard during the morning were P. O. Davis, director of the Alabama State Extension Service, and T. M. Campbell, field agent of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, stationed at Tuskegee Institute.

"Undoubtedly people move because the opportunities elsewhere seem to be more attractive," Mr. Gray told the committee in his paper today. "If we are to deal successfully with the problem of migrating farmers, we must arrest that movement in its inception by making farming more attractive and by raising the standard of living for the farm people.

"There can be little stability of tenure, which is the opposite of migration, unless the incomes of the farms are adequate to support the farms and the people with a standard of living comparable with that that can be obtained in other lines or in other places by these people. The problem, therefore, largely centers in the problem of income.

"Permit me to point out that in 1939 the average farm income in Alabama from marketings both crops and livestock was only $310. In addition to this, government benefit payments amounted roughly to $100 a farm. With an average of four or five people to a family, it is not difficult to understand why $310 for farm marketings is wholly inadequate to furnish a standard of living sufficient to retain farmers on their farms.

"Our major problem in Alabama so far in maintaining the farm population on the land is caused by the low prices received for those products produced on the land. With our major crop, cotton, bringing only approximately 56 per cent of parity and those products which we must purchase bringing 123 per cent of parity, you can readily see why we, as farm people, have a most difficult problem trying to secure a decent living.

"Even with the addition of benefit payments which Congress has most wisely made available during the past seven years, the farmer's income from his cotton is only now approximately 71 per cent of parity."

The speaker declared, however, that farming "offers many advantages which do not appear in income figures," and added that it is true now just as it has been in the past that the future of America rests in the land.

He suggested that "one of three roads" must be taken by farm people "hand in hand with their federal government:

"1. Higher prices per unit on whatever products they produce or

"2. Lower prices per unit for those things which they must buy or

"3. Since there is apparently a limit to the amount of our agricultural products that the world will take, even at our presently relatively low prices, the income from the sale of these products will have to be divided among fewer people."

Conditions closely identical to those which caused the Oakies to descend on a forbidding land of milk and honey in the Steinbeck novel, "The Grapes of Wrath," were expected to be outlined by the 17 scheduled to testify here.

Soil erosion and deterioration, crop overproduction, market shrinkages and mechanical innovations closing the door to the farm laborer are listed among the specific problems to be discussed during the regional meeting here, according to committee members.

Similar problems have been aired during meetings in other sections of the United States and when the regional session are concluded the committee expects to report back to Congress and recommend corrective legislation.

That the problem of the migrant farmer is a national one, rather than one for the states to cope with individually was the assumption back of the appointment of the special House committee.

Representative Tolan said here today the committee might complete its inquiry within two days, but that the committee schedule makes provision for a third day, Friday, if necessary.

In addition to Mr. Gray, Dr. Vance and other morning witnesses, the other witnesses expected to be heard here are John Rust, Memphis, inventor of the mechanical cotton picker; Dr. F. D. Patterson, president of Tuskegee; Dr. Harold Hoffsomer, Louisiana State University; Presto Valie, social science department, Fisk University, Nashville; Oscar Johnston, Memphis, National Cotton Council president; James Hand, Stoneville, Miss., Delta council member; President W. L. Mitchell, Southern Tenant Farmers Union, Memphis; George Fort Milton, Chattanooga publisher; Howard Gray, Montgomery, Alabama Farm Bureau Federation president; E. M. Norment, Memphis, district manager, Tennessee State Employment Service; Harold Wall, Tallahassee, Florida State Industrial Council chairman; John Veeches, supervisor of FSA migrant labor camps in Florida; Dr. H. H. Chapman, University of Alabama, and Milton Falk, Louisiana State Welfare Department executive secretary.

Congressional Group Meets In Montgomery For Economic Survey

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Aug. 14.—(AP)—A congressional committee scrutinized farm tenancy today as a contributor to the South's economic ills.

The committee, headed by Rep. Tolan, Democrat, California, opened a three-day hearing to which migrant workers, educators, economists and agronomists were invited.

Tolan said the tenant farm system was being examined as a factor in economic circumstances that cause approximately 4,000,000 U. S. workers to move annually from state to state seeking employment.

The congressmen also will study soil erosion and other possible obstacles to farm workers obtaining economic security in established locations.

Four migrant workers were asked to tell of their lives and travels before the committee. Others to appear included Dr. L. N. Duncan, president of Alabama Polytechnic Institute; Howard Gray, president of the Alabama Farm Bureau Federation; Dr. Rupert B. Vance, University of North Carolina; P. O. Davis, Alabama extension director; Prof. T. M. Campbell, Tuskegee Institute; Dr. Harold Hoffsommer, Louisiana State University; and Clarence R. Bitting, United States Sugar Corp., Clewiston, Fla.

Huntsville, Ala., Times
August 14, 1940

Farm Desertion Is Told By Gray

Madison Countian Chief Witness Before Congress Committee

MONTGOMERY, August 14 (AP)—Ruralists are pulling up and leaving the soil to become migrant workers, because of "the disadvantage to which farmers have been subjected in the market place," Howard Gray, president of the Alabama Farm Bureau Federation, told a congressional committee investigating interstate migration of destitute citizens here today.

"If we are to deal successfully with the problem of migrating farmers," Gray said, "we must arrest that movement in its inception by making farming more attractive, and by raising the standard of living for the farm people."

As a means of accomplishing this, the federation president declared that the 71 per cent of parity, which Southern farmers received for cotton, must be raised nearer the 123 per cent of parity which they must pay for products they buy.

Without government benefit payments, Gray said, cotton was bringing only 56 per cent of parity.

"Permit me to point out," he continued, "that in 1939 the average cash farm income in Alabama from marketing of both crops and livestock was only $310. In addition to this, government benefit payments amounted roughly to $100 per farm.

"With an average of more than five people per family, it is not difficult to understand why $310 from farm marketings is wholly inadequate to furnish a standard of living sufficient to retain farmers on their farms."

On questioning by Rep. Tolan (D-Cal.), Gray said it was his opinion a similar condition prevailed throughout the Southeast.

"When we have done away with the tremendous disparity between price received and price paid, it is our belief, Gray continued, "that the farmers will be able to improve their farms and homes, or perhaps undertake to purchase a farm, and in that way become more securely tied to the land."

Mechanization, the Alabama farm leader declared, has displaced "very, very little" farm labor, except in the Tennessee Valley and scattered localities lending themselves to this type of cultivation.

"But," Gray asserted, "we are going to have to do more and more of this, apparently, to bring the unit cost of production down."

Dr. Rupert Vance, of the University of North Carolina, testified more than 3,400,000 persons had migrated from the South to other areas, and that almost as many had left farms for Southern industrial centers.

The North Carolinian described migration as an economic necessity.

"Such movements," he declared, "are necessary to develop, maintain and stabilize the national economy.

"The economic order is continually adjusting and readjusting

Gadsden, Ala., Times
August 14, 1940

Solons Study Farm Tenancy

the fact that a man has a little or no money in his pocket, is no valid reason for depriving him of his right to migrate across state line. The right to move may seem a poor substitute for real security, but it must not be forgotten that for many of our citizens it has proved the road to increased well-being."

Tolan said the tenant farm system was being examined as a factor in economic circumstances that cause approximately 4,000,000 U. S. workers to move annually from state to state seeking employment.

The congressmen also will study soil erosion and other possible obstacles to farm workers obtaining economic security in established locations.

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Montgomery, Ala. Journal
August 16, 1940

Over-Worked Fields Blamed For Migration

FSA Official Urges Farm Income During Off-Season

A works program to restore over-cultivated land and other natural resources and afford a supplemental income for farmers during off-seasons was proposed Friday as a remedy for migration of the destitute.

The suggestion came from E. S. Morgan, southeastern regional director of the farm security administration. It was set forth in a statement to a special congressional committee at the second of a series of hearings seeking a solution of the migration problem.

Morgan also said he believed the working out of a better tenure system would help. "The present system of tenure here in the south offers little encouragement to the tenants to protect the soil or the buildings on the farm he leases," he held.

The FSA official was among several "experts" who have mingled with migrants and others in putting their views before the committee during a three-day hearing ending Friday.

Relief Grants Needed

A recommendation that federal relief grants be made to states to assist in caring for migrant workers was presented by Miss Loula Dunn, Alabama welfare commissioner. She asserted the "problem of transiency is national in scope" and proposed that "the initiative in establishing a pattern of relief grants" be assumed by the federal government.

H. L. Mitchell, secretary of the Southern Tenant Farmers union, told the committee that ruralists forced off the soil, many of them into "crowded slums" of towns, constituted potentially a "fertile breeding ground for a real fifth column."

John Beecher, FSA supervisor of Florida migratory labor camps, and Mitchell agreed that mechanization was responsible for forcing many farm workers out. Homer C. McNamera, superintendent of the Mississippi agricultural experiment station at Stoneville, said, however, he saw no serious threat from mechanical cotton pickers and choppers in his territory.

Mechanized Farming

Another view was taken by John Rust, president of the Rust Cotton Picker Company, Memphis, Tenn. In a paper he submitted, Rust said that "in view of the tremendous saving of machine harvesting over hand picking, especially in heavy-yield territory, it appears that the cotton grower will be compelled to go in for completely mechanized farming at the earliest opportunity."

Oscar Johnston, president of the national cotton council, said in another paper that "a further cotton acreage reduction will result in hundreds of thousands of families being thrown on relief or becoming indigent, migratory agricultural labor."

Inclusion of migrating agricultural laborers under the federal wage-hour law was recommended by Myron Falk, executive secretary of the Louisiana Council on Migratory Labor and Transients.

In addition, Falk suggested that a fourth category—general assistance—should be added to benefits provided by the social security act, and that all residence requirements in order to qualify for "general assistance" should be eliminated.

"In general, migrants, like residents, seek the same economic security and honest livelihood," Falk told the committee and insisted "they should be allowed all privileges which are extended to residents, in their effort to find security.

"The low income of the agricultural migrants accounts for some of their difficulties. They should be included under the wage and hour bill and in the social security act, so that they can enjoy the benefits of unemployment compensation and old age benefit payments."

Dr. F. D. Patterson, president of Tuskegee Institute, was among several witnesses who blamed economic conditions for the migration of both whites and negroes in search for better opportunities.

Tampa, Fla. Tribune
August 16, 1940

RELIEF GRANTS URGED TO CARE FOR MIGRANTS

Federal Assistance Declared Necessary

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Aug. 15—(Associated Press)—A recommendation of federal relief grants to states for caring for wandering, destitute workers was placed before a congressional committee on interstate migration today, shortly after it was warned that ruralists forced off the soil constituted potentially a "fertile breeding ground for a real fifth column."

Holding that "the problem of transiency is national in scope," Miss Loula Dunn, Alabama welfare commissioner, said that "the initiative in establishing a pattern of relief grants to states should in my judgment be assumed by the federal government."

It was H. L. Mitchell, secretary of the southern tenant farmers' union, who warned of "fifth column" dangers and asserted that for every farm family migrating westward, ten had "moved into the crowded slums" of nearby cities and towns, "there to join the ranks of unemployed seeking to get on WPA."

A federal law "providing for the payment of minimum wages as prerequisite for sharing in government benefit payments under crop control measures," was suggested by the union executive, who added that "the right to self organization among farm laborers ought to be protected just as the right is guaranteed industrial workers."

Richmond, Va., Times-Dispatch
August 16, 1940

'Relief Grants' Recommended for Destitute Migrants

MONTGOMERY, ALA., (AP)—A recommendation of Federal "relief grants" to States for caring for wandering, destitute workers was placed yesterday before a congressional committee on interstate migration. Earlier the committee was warned that ruralists forced off the soil constituted potentially a "fertile breeding ground for a real 'fifth column.'"

Holding that "the problem of transiency is national in scope," Miss Loula Dunn, Alabama welfare commissioner, said that "the initiative in establishing a pattern of relief grants to States should in my judgment be assumed by the Federal Government."

It was H. L. Mitchell, secretary of the Southern Tenant Farmers' Union, who warned of "fifth-column" dangers and asserted that for every farm family migrating westward, ten had "moved into the crowded slums" of nearby cities and towns, there to join the ranks of unemployed seeking to get on WPA." (See Story on Page 23.)

Wage Minimum Required

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Deep-rooted sociological aspects of the migrant problem were delved into by a series of witnesses, most of them experts in varied fields, before the committee (D., Calif.). Hearings here will be concluded today.

Competition from Cuban vegetables produced with "peon labor" and freight rate differentials operating against the South were viewed as handicaps on Southeastern truck farms and subsequent contributors to the plight crop-following workers by Mayor John Hulaney of Pahokee, Fla.

Dr. F. D. Patterson, president of Tuskegee Institute, and other witnesses held that the basic reasons behind the migration of both Negroes and whites were "economic"—the seeking of better opportunities and employment.

The committee was told by John Beecher, Farm Security Administration supervisor of Florida migratory labor camps, that processes similar to those prompting farmer exoduses from Oklahoma and other States of the drought area were "operating in an accelerating degree also in the Mississippi Valley and the Southeast."

While Beecher and Mitchell agreed that mechanization could be blamed directly for forcing many off the land over the Southeast and elsewhere, Homer C. McNamera, superintendent of the Mississippi Agricultural Experiment Station at Stoneville, said he did not see a serious threat to farm labor from mechanical cotton choppers and pickers in the Mississippi Delta.

Talladega, Ala., Daily Home
August 16, 1940

MIGRANTS SUPPLIED BY SOUTH ARE EXAMINED BY CONGRESSIONAL BODY

To Get Viewpoints Today Of Tenant Farmer And Landowner

HEARING COMES TO END TOMORROW

By GLENN SAUNDERS
International News Service
Staff Correspondent

MONTGOMERY, Aug. 16. —(INS)—The South's part in supplying the large percentage of migrants who roam from place to place seeking work was being further examined today by the five-man congressional committee studying the movement of destitute citizens.

One of the outstanding of today's list of witnesses being examined is John Beecher, supervisor of the FSA migratory labor camps in Florida. Another is H. L. Mitchell, secretary of the Southern Tenant Farmes Union,

LABOR - 1940
MIGRATION MOVEMENT

Chattanooga, Tenn., Daily Times
August 16, 1940

AID FOR MIGRANTS URGED AT HEARING

Federal Relief Grants for States Urged at 'Grapes of Wrath' Inquiry

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Aug. 15 (AP)—A recommendation of federal "relief grants" to states for caring for wandering, destitute workers was placed before a congressional committee on interstate migration today, shortly after it was warned that ruralists forced off the soil constituted potentially a "fertile breeding ground for a real fifth column."

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Asks Minimum Wage

A federal law "providing for the payment of minimum wages as prerequisite for sharing in government benefit payments under crop control measures" was suggested by the union executive, who added that "the right to self organization among farm laborers ought to be protected just as the right is guaranteed industrial workers."

Deep-rooted sociological aspects of the migrant problem were delved into by a series of witnesses, most of them experts in varied fields, before the committee, headed by Representative Tolan (dem., Cal.). Hearings here will be concluded tomorrow.

Competition from Cuban vegetables produced with "peon labor" and freight rate differentials operating against the south were viewed as handicaps on southeastern truck farmers and subsequent contributors to the plight crop-following workers by Mayor John Dulaney, of Pahokee, Fla.

Establishment of means to protect migrants "from exorbitant rents and to guarantee wages" was urged by Dr. William Weems, county physician for West Palm Beach county, Florida. He also advocated better housing facilities, saying many abodes occupied in his area were unfit for habitation and constituted public health hazards.

Dr. F. D. Patterson, president of Tuskegee institute, and other witnesses held that the basic reasons behind the migration of both Negroes and whites were "economic," the seeking of better opportunities and employment.

The committee was told by John Beecher, farm security administration supervisor of Florida migratory labor camps, that processes similar to those prompting farmer exoduses from Oklahoma and other states of the drought area were "operating in an accelerating degree also in the Mississippi valley and the southeast."

"Soil depletion through erosion rather than drought, acreage reduction, and mechanization have completely displaced a great number," Beecher said, "while an even greater number have been pushed down from tenancy to the status of wage laborers employed, but a few months a year."

While Beecher and Mitchell agreed that mechanization could be blamed directly for forcing many off the land over the southeast and elsewhere, Homer C. McNamera, superintendent of the Mississippi agricultural experiment station at Stoneville, said he did not see a serious threat to farm labor from mechanical cotton choppers and pickers in the Mississippi delta.

"Probably the greatest resistance of all to further mechanization of delta plantations," McNamera said, "lies in the fact that 56 per cent. of all cultivated lands must be planted to crops other than cotton. In this case the operator can grow his own feed and produce his own workstock. He can grow his feed, and when prices are low, avoid a large cash outlay for fuel, oil and repairs."

Howard Stovall is not able to be present as scheduled to represent the Mississippi Delta Council but it is represented by Reed Dunn, Jr.

Mitchell will present the viewpoint of the tenant farm while Dunn will explain the position of the large landowner.

Dr. F. D. Paterson of Tuskegee Institute will also testify as will National Youth Administrator Dr. John Bryan of Birmingham.

Highlight of the first days hearing was a lengthy, well-prepared paper presented by Dr. Rupert B. Vance of the University of North Carolina.

Dr. Vance reviewed statistics showing that the birth rate in the South was so much greater than is needed merely to maintain a normal growth that much of this area's youth are forces by this "population pressure" to seek their fortune in other areas.

Dr. Vance did not condemn this, saying that it was an economic necessity and was a necessary process for the replenishment of the population of large industrial areas in the North and East where the birth rates are so low that the population would decrease were it not for the migration of Southerners into there.

He did lament the fact that this section has not been able to train its youth to compete on an equal basis with those they must compete with when they go into other regions. He also cited that each year the Southern states spend millions of dollars educating their young men and women only to have them, once their education is complete, go into other sections and enrich those areas by their labors. Thus, the South is put in the position of continually spending money to produce the most valuable product—educate youth—for which it gets no returns.

Howard Gray, vice president of the Alabama Farm Bureau Federation, cited that farmers receive a much smaller income for the products they sell than they need to spend for products they should be able to buy. Until this differential is abolished and the farmer can earn enough to make his lot attractive, there is little chance of encouraging a stable population, Gray said.

Other witnesses appearing also expressed this belief.

Prof. T. W. Campbell, Negro agricultural official of Tuskegee Institute told the committee about the Negro migration situation. He attributed the movement of Negroes from the South to the North principally to a greater demand for their labor there and better pay offers rather than a search for social equality. He said the movement of Negroes has been facilitated by modern, cheap transportation and more communication among them brought about by a higher percentage of literacy.

P. O. Davis, Alabama extension director advocated the establishment of small substance homesteads as a means of taking care of the increased farm population.

The Montgomery hearing, to be concluded tomorrow, is one of several being held throughout the nation. One has already been held in New York and the next will be held in Chicago next week.

John Sparkman, Alabama congressman, is a member of the committee.

DELTA AS HAVEN FOR WANDERING FARMERS URGED

Machinery Is Blamed for Increasing Hordes of Rural Itinerants

DEC 4 1940

(The Associated Press)

Washington, Dec. 3. — A congressional committee studying interstate migration heard Monday that machinery was "outstanding" among the forces aggravating the problem of the itinerant farm worker and received a suggestion for settling migrants on undeveloped farmlands in such areas as the Mississippi Delta and the Pacific Northwest.

Dr. Paul S. Taylor, University of California economics professor, told the committee that machinery was a major factor among the "forces which jeopardize the security of a substantial proportion of our people who make their living from the land."

"These forces, notably in the cotton and wheat belts," he added, "already contribute to the streams of destitute people who cross state lines."

Delta Lands Plentiful

H. R. Tolley, chief of the bureau of agricultural economics, suggested that one of the most promising adjustments of the problem of farm unemployment might be "a public effort to guide and assist farm migrants in settling upon undeveloped farmlands, such as the Mississippi Delta and the Pacific Northwest."

Tolley estimated there were 5,000,000 acres of "fertile but poorly drained, undeveloped, cut-over lands," in the Mississippi Delta area "which is potentially good land for agriculture use and settlement."

He estimated this area might provide opportunities for 125,000 farm families on 40-acre farms.

R. M. Evans, administrator of the agricultural adjustment administration, said that "there is no question but that the main cause of migrancy is lack of income" and added "perhaps the best guarantee against agricultural migrancy is the encouragement of family sized farms with good soil and sufficient income."

Asserting that one of the major causes of farm migrancy was exhaustion of the soil, he urged expansion of the farm program to assure more stable production, adequate farm income and soil conservation.

Auxiliary Jobs Needed

Evans said that even if farm income and prices were raised to parity there would still be several million rural families who could not make a living by farming operations alone.

Their need, he said, was for auxiliary jobs outside the home.

Plans to locate some defense industries in rural areas, he continued, may alleviate some of the problems of agricultural unemployment.

"It is also my hope," he added, "that more public works projects will be carried on in rural areas to provide jobs for those who cannot make a living on the farm."

Tolley, however, told the committee that there was little likli hood that the basic migrant prob lem would be "significantly al tered" by the defense program.

CALIFORNIA OPENS 15TH FACILITY TO HOUSE MIGRANTS

Federal Aided Camp at Fresno Offers Homes for 318 Families

(United Press)

Firebaugh, Cal., Aug. 31.—The first federal migrant camp in Fresno county—the 15th in California—offers homes for 318 families.

The camp was constructed on a once bare 372-acre region one mile west of Firebaugh near the western edge of Fresno county in a rich agricultural area.

It was designed to provide farm workers with shelter, healthy surroundings and give them an opportunity for participation in community affairs, A. V. Harper, Fresno district farm security administration supervisor, said.

F. T. McSherry, project manager, heads the camp administrative staff. Gladys Lathers is home management supervisor, and Eric Wik, maintenance foreman. Harper said three other staff members would be employed during the peak harvest season this fall.

Two Types of Homes

The living quarters for agricultural workers and their families were arranged to provide 282 homes in 47 one-story buildings of six units each. The other homes are apartment type four and six-room arrangements.

The families who will be assigned the apartments must provide good earnings and character records, camp officials said. These families will be allotted a quarter-acre plot to raise vegetables and fruit.

The greater number of small home units will provide quarters for transient families. The occupants of the small home units may become eligible for vacancies in the larger apartment homes by establishing the required reference records.

Camp officials said they expected the entire unit arrangement would be filled before the harvest season ends in the western valley area.

Project Cost $267,000

The buildings, streets and landscaped areas occupy approximately 70 acres. The government purchased the area for approximately $18,000 in February, 1939. The complete plant represents an investment of $267,000.

As part of the community scheme developed in the federal migrant camps, residents of the camp, employed or unemployed, will participate in all camp maintenance work.

There will be no charge for the migrant shelters. Each family will contribute two work hours each week to the camp. The larger apartments for the "established" residents will be rented for $8.20 a month.

Migrant Workers Tell Sorry Story In Congress Probe

NEW YORK.—(CNA) — A moving story of human tragedy, extreme poverty and horrible persecution, almost unbelievable in Twentieth Century America, was unfolded in the Federal Court Building, here this week as a special Congressional Committee, began probing conditions of thousands of Negro and white migratory workers.

Testimony at the hearings revealed a vivid picture of the nation-wide "Grapes of Wrath" problem which affects hundreds of thousands of families, continuously on the move, with no place that could be called home, looking for jobs.

"You either get out or starve—that is what makes people migrate," Florehn Irizari, 37-year-old Puerto Rican, told the committee as he related how he had been battered from pillar to post "just trying to make a living."

A former WPA worker, Irizari is one of thousands of victims whom the Woodrum Relief law has doomed to death by slow starvation.

"In 1929 they shut down the mine where I was", a sixty-year-old miner from Freeland Pennsylvania related. "I didn't get and steady employment all these years. I got no chance to go back to work in the mines, because the mines, they seem just about all worked out. My boys never had the chance to work at all, that's all."

An eighteen-year-old girl, Sadie Jones, "shocked" the committee when she told how she hitch-hiked through 46 states "looking for work." Emaciated and worn out she spoke so low that Representative Tolan, chairman of the committee, had to urge her constantly to speak louder.

Their stories, simple and unbellished, gave the human touch to testimony of scores of social students and social workers who appeared before the committee. Glen Leoki of the Rhode Island Department of Welfare stated that people migrate to get jobs, not relief, and that "no one state can solve this problem without Federal aid."

As the committee began to lift the lid over the frightful life of these people, New Jersey authorities announced plans to hound further several thousand Southern Negro migratory farm laborers employed on Central New Jersey potato farms, by ordering them fingerprinted and examined for social diseases.

Jim-crow health farm units have been set up, and at present 300 tests are made daily. Just what the fingerprinting presaged was made evident by an announcement that it would be of "value to employers and policemen."

FSA Camp Housing Solves Flordia Migrant Problem

Migratory labor problems have commanded nation-wide attention in recent years. Newspapers, welfare associations and sympathizers with the masses of people who have been variously described as "oakies," "peons" and "twentieth century slaves" have publicized their plight in no small manner.

Each year, the Everglades truck area draws to Southern Florida, from 10,000 to 15,000 migrant agricultural workers, most of whom are Negroes. To the litle towns around Lake Okeechobee-Belle Glade, Pahokee, and Canal Point, migrants from all over the United States flock from October to May to harvest the beans, celery and other small truck for which the region is famous.

Housing for the workers who harvest the crops has been left to chance, and chance for years has been scattering them in shacks, temporary camps, jungles along the lake dike and along the banks of drainage ditches.

Stepping into this situation two years ago, the Farm Security Administration, after exhaustive investigation, moved to improve living conditions among migrants in the glades.

Heaviest hit by lack of decent shelter were Negro migrants, for whom 73 per cent of the FSA Florida Migrant facilities, completed and under construction, have been set aside.

Late in April of this year, the first Florida Migratory labor camps were opened. Whatever fear existed as a result of "scare-talk' of concentration camps, employment boycotts and intimidation vanished as the grapevine telegraph spread the news that clean shelters, vermin and insect-proof, with a safe water supply, could be had at the camp for less than the rent of the unlighted, unsanitary hovels provided by real estate speculators.

Migrants, moving in, found much more. Elections were held and a camp council elected—voteless people had a choice in the management of their affairs. Under FSA personnel, community programs, movies and dances are directed. A well equipped clinic is available. A school and nursery are under construction.

Such migratory labor camps, a boon to sufferers in the Florida everglades, may prove to be the means of stabilizing farm labor in areas where migratory laborers have proved distracting problems.

MIGRANT INFLUX MENACES HEALTH

CAMP BLANDING, Fla., Nov. 18—(AP)—A serious health problem, brought on by the influex of thousands of job-seeking migrants to this big army camp, Monday drew the attention of Army, Red Cross, health and welfare authorities.

More than 18,000 workmen are employed in three eight-hour shifts as the government rushes to completion the $10,000,000 119,999-acre training center for the arrival of the first of 40,000 troops next month.

Many of these workmen and their families, as well as hundreds of others who still hope to get jobs, are camping out in the piney woods and palmetto thickets across the "hard road" from the military reservation. They have come from almost every state in the Union.

The families whose men have not found work are destitute. Those with men on the payroll lack proper clothing and shelter. Sub-freezing weather the last three enights has increased the suffering of the less fortunate.

Monday, the State Board of Health sent three doctors and three sanitary officers here from Jacksonville to begin inoculating the 8,000 men employed on the project.

The Board of Health also staked off seven camp sites in which officers had approved water and sanitary facilities. An effort will be made to have all the migrants move into these areas.

Representatives of the Army, the Red Cross, the contractors, the State Board of Health, the State Welfare Board and the Travelers' Aid Society mapped further attacks on the problem at a conference late Monday.

Health officers investigated but could not confirm reports that three Negroes and one white man "froze to death or died hungry" Friday night.

LABOR 1940
MIGRATION MOVEMENT

Negro Migrants' Camp Bids Are Opened Here

Low bids of $241,358 was submitted yesterday by W. L. Coston & Sons, Bessemer, Ala., for construction of a 300-family camp for migratory negro laborers at Pompano, Fla.

The Pompano camp will be the third in Florida for negroes and will have 158 single and duplex shelters, an assembly building, nursery, clinic and auxiliary structures and developments.

Other low bidders included: Ward Construction Co., Tampa, Fla., $244,900; and E. & E. J. Tfotzer, Philadelphia, Penn., $252,280.

GROUP REPORT ON MIGRATORY WORK'R STATUS

Work Conditions Result in Probe

Authorities in the field of public welfare and representatives of the migrants themselves have been chosen to place before a special congressional investigating committee here August 19, 20, and 21, the social and economic aspects of America's vast army of migratory laborers as related to Illinois and surrounding states, Acting Chief Field Investigator A. Kramer of the Committee announced today.

The Committee, headed by Congressman John T. Tolan (Calif. D.) was named by the house of Representatives to study interstate migration with the primary purpose of aiding the federal government in drawing remedial legislation. Other members are John J. Sparkman (Ala. D.), Claud V. Parsons (Illinois, D.), Carl T. Curtis (Neb. R.), and Frank C. Osmers, Jr. (New Jersey, R.)

An incomplete list of administrative experts and public officials who have been invited to appear includes: Miss Edith Abbott, Dean, School of Social Service Administration, University of Chicago; Mayor Edward J. Kelly Neil H. Jacoby, representing Gov Henry A. Horner; Fred Hoehler Director, Lake Forest Experimental Station, St. Paul, Minn.; Prof Walter Duffy, University of Wisconsin; Phillip Beck, Regional Director, Farm Security Administration, Indianapolis; W. G. Murray, Professor of Agricultural Economics, Iowa State College; H. W. Morgenthaler, of the Ohio State department of public welfare; and Louis Wirth, professor of sociology, University of Chicago.

In addition, migrants of various classifications will tell their stories. The confirmed rural migrant who follows the harvests from state to state; a Negro family from the Mississippi Valley now living in Chicago; a family from Nebraska's Dust Bowl, resettled in Wisconsin, and several other individuals illustrating wide patterns of people on the move in search of employment will be asked to appear.

Opening hearings of the Committee were held this week in New York. After taking testimony in Montgomery, Alabama, on the 14th, the Committee comes here on the 19th of this month. In addition to Illinois the territory to be covered in the Chicago hearings includes Michigan, Iowa, Indiana, Wisconsin and Minesota. Following this the Congressmen move to Lincoln, Nebraska, Oklahoma City, and San Francisco. Sessions here will be held in the County Building.

Conflicting settlement laws of the various states will receive detailed consideration, Chairman Tolan said.

Regional offices of the Committee are located at Room 1130, County building.

HELPING THE JOADS.

A congressional committee has been taking evidence in Chicago and elsewhere on the lot of the migratory worker. Since "Grapes of Wrath" was published the country has been generously provided with books and articles which may have created in many minds the notion that the migration of labor is itself an evil to be prevented. Accordingly, there is reason to fear that any legislative remedies which may be proposed will be built on some such premise.

That would be regrettable on many counts. All over the country there is seasonal work to be done in gathering the various field and orchard crops, in lumbering, ice cutting, canning, and many other occupations. If the men who pick peaches were to remain in the vicinity of the orchards and were to be supported the year round by their wages from a few weeks' work, the price of peaches would be forced so high that no one except a millionaire could afford to buy them. It would not benefit the migratory worker to destroy the canning industry which now offers him the only work he can get, and certainly the interest of the 130 million consumers of food in this country ought not to be wholly overlooked.

The freedom to migrate made this country what it is today. It was settled by migrants and it owes the speed of its economic growth precisely to the fact that the people of this country were foot-loose and proud of it. They rushed in wherever opportunity presented itself. Lincoln's father before him and Lincoln himself were migratory workers. The Oregon trail was followed by migratory workers, and so were all the other trails of settlement, including those from the farms to Chicago and the other great industrial cities.

An accompaniment of all this moving about has been a great deal of suffering and hardship. It is to be hoped that means can be found of alleviating much of the distress, but it would be a serious mistake to pass laws which would, in effect, discourage men from seeking to better themselves by their own effort. To do so would not help them and would do great injury to every one else, not only by raising the cost of living but also by increasing the tax burden.

The best thing that could be done for the migratory worker would be to give encouragement to industry. As opportunities in industry open up the men who are now going about the country looking for work will find it, the supply of available labor will be reduced, wages and working conditions for casual labor will tend to rise. Persons who are genuinely concerned for the plight of the migrants will recognize that an administration which is friendly to business enterprise is the friend, also, of the migratory worker.

TRY TO ESCAPE FARM PEONAGE, GROUP IS TOLD

OCT 19 1940

Southerners Look to This City as "Mother," Mrs. E. W. Payton, Says

One of this city's most distressing problems concerns the Negro migratory workers who converge on this city in an attempt to escape Southern peonage, Mrs. Edna West Payton, of the Civic Association Federation, told the District Council of Social Agencies Monday.

"These rural persons are stealing away from virtual peonage," she stated. "They have been tenant farmers or sharecroppers. They come here because they regard Washington as mother of the nation.

"They look for help here, but they bring to us a serious problem. In one of our Civic Association districts this September there were 250 new children enrolled in a school; of these 243 were from North or South Carolina, only seven from the District, Maryland or Virginia."

Mrs. Payton further said that civic associations studies led to the conclusion that it is the migratory worker who chiefly causes such major District problems as overcrowded housing, Negro tuberculosis, malnutrition and the like. One method of attacking the problem is to spread information among the Southern Negroes that they have few job opportunities in Washington."

Difficult Problem

She added, however, that dissemination of such information was difficult because the Negroes who needed it were unlearned and not reached by such organizations as the YWCA and YMCA.

Major Campbell C. Johnson, executive secretary of the Twelfth Street YMCA, urged that an impartial commission should be set up to find not one but several solutions.

Mrs. Payton outlined the work of the civic associations. She asked for nursery schools for Negro children of pre-school age, paid high tribute to the National Training School for Boys, and mentioned the National Training School for Girls.

Among the new board members elected Monday was Dr. H. H. Long, assistant school superintendent.

Probe Hears Plight of Migratory Worker

Testify in Chicago on Miserable Conditions

By Harold Preece
(Special to the Daily Worker)

CHICAGO, Aug. 23.—The Joads of the Middle West today continued their parade of misery before the congressional committee investigating conditions of migratory agricultural workers.

"There is no public agency now in a position to properly assist migratory families or even guide them into areas where they may have some chance for realizing their ambition to find economic security," Joel D. Hunter, general superintendent of the Chicago United Charities, told the committee at its opening day's session Monday.

He asserted that the entrance of the federal government into the program in some manner seems essential.

The committee concluded its Chicago sessions yesterday before adjourning to meet in Lincoln, Neb., on Sept. 16. It's membership includes Representatives John H. Tolan (Dem., Calif.) chairman, Representatives John J. Sparkman (Dem.—Calif.), Claude V. Parsons (Dem., Ill.), Carl T. Curtis (Dem.—Neb.), and Frank C. Osmers (Rep.—N. J.)

CAN'T GET RELIEF

Leander Tungate who cannot get relief either in Indiana or in his home state of Kentucky because he divides his time between them told what it means to pick tomatoes twelve hours a day in the broiling sun for from 2½ to 6 cents per basket.

"Last year, me, my wife, my five kids and my brother-in-law lived in one room 16 by 18 foot shacks," Tungate told the committee.

"If I work hard from sun-up to sun-down, I can make a dollar," the Kentuckian said. "My wife can make the same amount, but of course, the kids can't do as well."

A member of the committee asked Leander Tungate how he and his family "made out" for food.

"Sometimes, there just aint any," he replied tersely.

Indiana State Unemployment Supervisor Ben Deming told the committee that one way to remedy the plight of America's Joads was through "organizations of the migratory workers themselves."

"Migratory workers come into Indiana every year from Kentucky, Tennessee, Missouri, and Ohio to pick our $5,000,000 tomato crop," Deming testified.

Declaring that local residents in the tomato belt refuse picking jobs because wages are too low and because working conditions are substandard, he added:

"The workers must organize. Th canners association must pay decent wages so that pickers will not become stranded in Indiana. The state must take action and the federal government must see to it that agricultural workers are included under the provisions of the Wage-Hour Act."

Mrs. Jean Zgorski, attractive young mother of three small children testified that she has lived all her life in Chicago except for nine months spent in Florida. She lives at the local Salvation Army shelter along with 40 other of Chicago's thousands of forgotten people. She told of how cruelly the Illinois three-year residence law operates against the destitute.

The Chicago Relief Administration orders us to leave town if we have any chances of a job or of support elsewhere," she told the committee. "Then when the job plays out or we can no longer get by in the other place, we have to return and be told that we are no longer eligible for relief because we have lost our Illinois residence."

"The state of Florida shipped me back up here after I had separated from my husband saying that me and my children were the responsibility of Illinois. Then I came here, the relief people said that we belonged in Florida. They won't give me any relief or certify me on WPA so that I can make a living for my family."

"What would you do if the Salvation Army didn't let you stay at its shelter?" Congressman Tolan asked the young mother.

"God knows," she replied. "But we can't stay there all the time."

Gerard W. Brooks, Chicago extension secretary of the Travellers Aid Society, told this correspondent that his organization was paying for the shelter of several homeless people in the Salvation Army shelter.

"This problem of the migratory workers is a greater one than any private agency can cope with," he said. We spend about $45,000 a year taking care of homeless migrants, realizing that the assistance we render is but a drop in the bucket to what should be done."

Mayor Edward J. Kelly, of Chicago, first witness before the committee, was forced to admit that the three-year residence requirement was "unjust" and that it was "driving a lot of good people into trouble." However, the Kelly forces in the state legislature made no real fight against the three-year residence requirement when it was nailed into the relief appropriation last year.

A prominent Negro civic leader, Howard Gould, industrial secretary of the Chicago Urban League, warmly defended the trade unions against insinuations of race prejudice made by Congressman Osmers Gould and Frayser T. Lane, head of the League's civic departments testified regarding the living conditions of Chicago's 300,000 Negroes After Gould had described the continual migration of Negroes driven from the South by starvation, Osmers asked:

"Will you make the statement that labor unionism in the North will work against further migration of Negroes from the South?"

"No sir," the young Negro leader replied unhesitatingly. "The danger that labor unions might discriminate against Negroes has been greatly exaggerated."

Later on, Gould praised the labor unions as one of the major forces making fo rbetter feeling between the two races.

But still unheard late yesterday were the voices of eight million Negro and poor white peons in the Deep South.

Mildred Johnson, 22-year old Negro girl and native of Mobile, Ala. appeared with a letter to the committee from the Chicago Council of the National Negro Congress asking that an investigation be made of the notorious Oglethorpe County, Ga., peonage ring headed by William T. Cunningham, and center of a nationwide campaign waged by the Abolish Peonage Committee of the International Labor Defense.

A committee investigator took the letter and a pamphlet on peonage to be "filed" in the records of the hearing. Miss Johnson was not given an opportunity to testify although she was ready and qualified to do so.

"The issue was too hot for the committee to handle," an informed person told this correspondent. "The Democratic majority on the committee doesn't want to bring out any facts which would reflect upon the national administration and maybe lose the Negro vote in pivotal Northern states."

Strong pressure will be exerted by the National Negro Congress upon the special Congressional committee investigating conditions among migratory workers to undertake a thorough probe of Southern peonage.

This announcement was made today by Ishmael P. Flory, organizer of the Chicago Council of the Congress, who called especial attention to "the little slave kingdom of Oglethorpe County, Ga., where the Department of Justice has failed to take active steps to uproot conditions of peonage exposed in hundreds of pages of sworn affidavits produced by the Abolish Peonage Committee of the International Labor Defense."

A letter from the Chicago C
asking that the committee
the enforced slavery of 8,
Southern Negro and poor white
sharecroppers in the South and par-
icularly Oglethorpe County was introduced into the record of the committee headed by Congressman John H. Tolan (Dem., Calif.) at its final Chicago session last Wednesday. Also introduced into the record by the Congress was a pamphlet, "Peonage—1940 Style Slavery," written by Harold Preece, native white Southerner, and published by the Abolish Peonage Committee, 231 S. Wells St., Chicago.

More Migratory Workers

A new group of migratory workers has been developed by the defense program and the extension of the military establishment. Thousands of workers and their families are being attracted to centers of such activity. And, as has been the case with respect to agricultural migrants, housing and facilities for health protection have been extremely inadequate in many cases.

Labor commissioners of Alabama, Georgia, Florida, North and South Carolina and representatives of federal agencies met in Atlanta the other day to tackle this new problem. They urged an integrated federal and state program.

This is a big and urgent job calling for prompt action if it is not to get out of control.

LABOR - 1940
MIGRATION MOVEMENT

Wage-Hour Law May Aid Migrants

DEC 14 1940

Special to Journal and Guide

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Migrants, or floating workers, might find some relief from unscrupulous labor agents, profiteering landlords and starvation wages if the wage-hour law is extended to cover large scale agricultural enterprises.

This was gleaned last week when Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins and Colonel Philip B. Fleming, wage-hour administrator, appeared before the special House committee investigating migrant workers and urged that the legislation be extended to protect this particular class of worker.

Characterizing the plight of migrants as being worse than that of any group in the country, it was proposed that they be brought under the National Labor Relations Act as well as the wage-hour law, and recommended increased Federal-State cooperation to meet the problem.

Much interest has been manifested over the proposal especially throughout New York and New Jersey where thousands of these workers migrate annually in search of farm work, most of whom are colored, and who have been the greatest sufferers.

Philip Murray, new president of the CIO, though not present at the meeting, urged that the social legislations be extended to cover the migrant workers until private industry could offer greater opportunities for work.

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, who had testified before a Congressional group one one other occasion, was scheduled to testify before the House committee this week.

ACTION TO ASSIST MIGRATORY WORK ELEMENTS URGED

Joint State and Federal Moves Suggested at Conference

DEC 19 1940

(The Associated Press)

Atlanta, Dec. 18.—Joint action of state and federal authorities was recommended today by the Interstate Conference on Migratory Labor to regulate health, living conditions and actual usefulness of an estimated 50,000 footloose workers engaged in defense jobs and seasonal agriculture.

Concluding a two-day conference, labor commissioners of five Southern states and officials of federal agencies adopted a 12-point program aimed at co-ordinating housing and relief efforts and checking "blind migrations" of labor in search of mythical employment.

At the top of its program, the conference placed the exchange of advance job inventories to provide information on prospective employment opportunities. The group also suggested federal regulation of interstate activities of public employment agencies, licensing of private agencies, and "an immediate and realistic program . . . to house the workers attracted to the federal defense projects."

Many at Army Camps

The conference dealt especially with the problems of migrant farm workers, who follow the harvests and live in squalor except where government migrant labor camps have been established. The group also noted, however:

"The development of the military establishment and defense industries have attracted many thousands of workers and their families without adequate provision being made for housing and health protection. The committee, believing that the migration of workers is not a problem concerning one state but is interstate in character and hence a national responsibility, recommends that . . . in every area in which there is a defense project there be provided adequate health care through establishment of a full-time accredited local health department . . ."

Observing that settlement laws now bar many needy migrants from various forms of public assistance, the conference advocated greater uniformity and liberalization of these restrictions, and closer co-operation of state and federal agencies in meeting the problem.

Grants Are Suggested

Grants-in-aid, similar to those given by the federal government to states under the social security program, were suggested for general relief.

The conference also advocated:

Extension of workmen's compensation and social security legislation to agricultural workers.

Appropriation of additional funds to provide "decent housing" for low-income farm families and farm laborers.

Provision of extra funds for rehabilitation and resettlement of farm families.

Adoption of uniform state laws of health, sanitation and medical care of migrant agricultural workers and farm families.

Extension of the farm security administration's migratory labor camp program.

Wage-Hour Benefits

Investigation of the possibility of extending wage-hour law benefits to agricultural workers.

Adequate appropriation and personnel for state regulation of migrant labor.

Joint state and federal action to avoid stranding of labor when defense projects are completed.

Regulation of housing and sanitation for migratory and seasonal labor, similar to that now exercised by the states over tourist camps.

States represented at the conference included Georgia, Alabama, Florida and North and South Carolina.

LABOR * 1940
MIGRATORY MOVEMENT

Something Basic Must Be Done About "Oakies"

Birmingham, Ala. News
August 17, 1940

AS in most things, there are two sides to the question involved in the wholesale rounding up, by police, of Negro migrant farm workers in a section of New Jersey, following the alleged assault on a Trenton white woman in the Oxford Valley of Pennsylvania. Any attempt to analyze the moral issue involved is difficult and certainly confusing. But here are some brief conclusions:

1. The Negro masses, victimized in any economic misfortune, suffer again in this instance for something for which they as a group are not fundamentally responsible.

2. The alleged assault on the white woman has its doubtful circumstances. The man, to whom she is said to have been secretly married, left her at the mercy of the alleged assailants. Why? The case, at best, has the "a-Negro-did-it" flavor. However, that is not important. New Jersey police, anxious to rid themselves of a social and economic problem, would have seized upon any "incident" to have cleaned out the migrant workers.

3. While New Jersey may not feel itself responsible for the economic plight of these farm hands from the deep South and for the resulting social problems which their migrations through the state's farm area cause, it is certainly obligated, by any moral consideration, to do something more fundamentally remedial than a mass round-up of perfectly innocent people who seek only to do a day's work. The police or the state have made no effort to adjust the low wage scale or the substandard living conditions which prevail for these workers who come at the bidding of the wealthy landowners who are in search of ridiculously cheap labor.

4. Something in the basic economic structure of our nation must be changed to affect some permanent remedy for the ills of these "oakies," white and colored, who are not responsible for their plight but who suffer the consequences of a maladjusted economy.

Congressmen Close Hearing On Migrants With Full Brief Case

Many Suggestions Put Forward In Attempt To Solve National Problem

BY HUGH W. SPARROW
Birmingham News Staff Writer

MONTGOMERY, Ala.— Satisfied that the hearing here this week had thrown much additional light on the complex problem of the migrant farmer and what to do about his plight, members of the five-man special investigating committee of Congress were en route Saturday to Chicago, where another regional hearing will open Monday.

Committee members spent Friday afternoon at Tuskegee Institute, where they were shown the many features of the famous Negro school and returned to Montgomery Friday night preparatory to departing for Chicago.

While committee members hesitated in committing themselves as to what recommendation might be made to Congress later on, they admitted the hearings here and in New York had shown that most of the witnesses believe the question of halting the widespread migrations, especially of rural farm folk, to be a federal government task.

"We have obtained much information that will be helpful to the committee," Representative John J. Sparkman, of Alabama, told the witnesses and others present in the federal courtroom Friday when the hearing was concluded.

Increased relief grants, improved camps for migrants, a works program for rehabilitating eroded farm lands with idle farm labor to be used, expansion of the Farm Security Administration and the National Youth Administration and establishment of cooperatives through which small farmers, tenants, sharecroppers and others may purchase modern farm machinery were some of the suggestions laid before the committee.

The committee is headed by Representative John Tolan (D., Calif.), and composed of Representatives John J. Sparkman (D., Ala.), Claude Parsons (D., Ill.), Carl T. Curtis (R., Neb.), and Frank C. Osmers, Jr. (R., N. J.).

Peonage Migrants Are D. C. Problems; Says Negroes Flee From Southland's Slavery

The Black Dispatch
Oklahoma City, Okla.

They Come To Washington Because They Regard It As The Mother of the Nation

OCT 2 6 1940

Thinks They Should Be Trained

WASHINGTON.—(ANP)—Charges that Negroes fleeing southern peonage practices coming to Washington constitute one of Washington's gravest social problems, were made by Mrs. Edna West Payton of the Civic Association federation addressing the District Council of Social Agencies here last week.

"Any morning," said Mrs. Payton, "you can see these pathetic migrants from the South trudging over Highway bridge, their few possessions tied in bundles on a stick over their shoulders. They have no education; they get no employment when they reach Washington.

"Many of these rural Negroes are stealing away from vitual peonage,' 'she claimed. "They have been tenant farmers or sharecroppers. They come here because they regard Washington as mother of the nation.

"They look for help here, but they bring to us a serious problem. What it involves is shown in these figures. In one of our civic association districts this September, there were 250 new children enrolled in a school. Of these 243 were from North or South Carolina and only seven were from the District, Virginia or Maryland."

In an interview Mrs. Payton said that civic association studies led to the conclusion that it is the migratory worker who chiefly causes such major district problems as overcrowded housing, Negro tuberculosis, malnutrition, etc.

One method of attacking the problem, she said, was to spread information among the southern Negroes that they had few job opportunities in Washington. She added that dissemination of such information was difficult because the Negroes who needed it were unlearned and not reached by such organizations as the Y. W. C. A. and the Y. M. C. A.

OCT 26 1940

Major Campbell Johnson of the 12th Street Y. M. C. A., who has been interested in this movement for many years, said:

"It seems ridiculous that when Washington is enjoying boom times, that the district should have such enormous and continuing relief burdens.

"If opportunity were given these rural migrants to reestablish themselves in nearby Maryland and Virginia on farms, there would be more applicants than opportunities.

"Again, in various parts of the United States there is a shortage of unskilled labor. Cannot the District Employment service suggest to these workers where they can find opportunities in other places?

"Then there is a shortage of good domestic help. Can't we train some of these workers? I believe that our social workers can help to urbanize some of these workers, but they can't do if all."

Mrs. Payton asked for nursery schools for Negro children of preschool age, paid high tribute to the National Training School for Boys but gave considerably less praise to the National Training School for Girls.

STEADY INFLUX TO WASHINGTON CAUSES ALARM

OCT 25 1940

WASHINGTON (ANP) — Charges that Negroes fleeing southern peonage practices by coming to Washington constitute one of the city's gravest social problems, were made by Mrs. Edna West Payton of the Civic Association federation addressing the District Council of Social Agencies here last week.

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Many of these rural Negroes are stealing away from virtual peonage", she declared. "They have been tenant farmers or sharecroppers. They come here because they regard Washington as mother of the nation.

Create Problem

"They look for help here, but they bring to us a serious problem. What it involves is shown in these figures. In one of our civic association districts this September, there were 250 new children enrolled in a school. Of these 243 were from North or South Carolina and only seven were from the district, Virginia or Maryland.

In an interview Mrs. Payton said that civic association studies led to the conclusion that it is the migratory worker who chiefly causes such major district problems as overcrowded housing, tuberculosis, and malnutrition.

Situation Ridiculous

One method of attacking the problem, she said, was to spread information among the southern Negroes that they had few job opportunities in Washington. She added that dissemination of such information was difficult because the Negroes who needed it were unlearned and not reached by such organizations as the YWCA and the YMCA.

Major Campbell Johnson of the Twelfth Street YMCA who has been interested in this movement for many years said:

"It seems ridiculous that when Washington is enjoying boom times, that the district should have such enormous and continuing relief burdens".

Chester, S. C., Reporter
October 21 1940

We read a story a day or two ago of Southern negroes streaming into Washington on foot and with all their personal effects tied up in a bandana and dangling from the end of a stick carried over the shoulder. They were represented as being off Southern farms, driven by acute need to seek refuge in Washington. There may be some truth in the statement that a great many blacks in the South are in sore straits financially, but we wonder if their flocking to Washington isn't due decidedly more to the belief so widespread throughout the country of the incredible number of jobs to be had at the capital and the great sums of money to be passed out. There is the fountain that discharges its ceaseless flow of manna. Why not cut out the middle man and repair at once to El Dorado? The South is still a good place for a man with the will to try, but it can't, of course, compete with the "Guvment" when "it comes to handing out the dough."

Listen to these impressive words from Senator George Norris, of Nebraska, on the third term issue, which express so forcefully the ideas so many of us have on this important subject: "It is important, because, in my judgment, if a President of the United States were allowed to renominate himself, as he could it would mean—not perhaps in my lifetime, or it may not be in the lifetime of anyone here—but it would mean ultimately the establishment in this country of a monarchy upon the ruins of our present republican form of government. A President wishing to be renominated, if he wants to use the power that is his, after he has been in office for some time, can compel his party . . . to renominate him. . . . He is at the head of the machine that has the entire country within its grasp, and can, through the power that he possesses, using the officials who are under him and who range down to the lowest on the list, to round up delegates; he can control conventions as no other man on earth can control them . . . He nominates himself by using the instrumentality that the law gives him on account of his position. There is no competition; there is a trust, there is a monopoly of the nomination as far as his party is concerned." However, let us hasten to add that this crisp, pungent statement of Mr. Norris was made in 1928, when he made no secret of his outright, downright hostility to the very suggestion of a third term. The arguments advanced still hold good. The dangers he foresaw persist. It's the Senator from Nebraska who has changed.

Norfolk Va Pilot
November 13, 1940

Eastern Oakies

From the Baltimore Evening Sun

A survey of the migrant workers in Maryland and Delaware is to be undertaken by the Council of Churches and Religious Education of those two States. This is recognition of the fact that the Atlantic seaboard also has its Oakies, and that their problem is as real as that of the Joads in Mr. Steinbeck's story.

The Eastern Oakies do not come from Oklahoma or Arkansas, they come up from Georgia, the Carolinas and Virginia, some to look for industrial jobs but most of them to harvest crops in a brief fruit and truck season. Their problem is complicated and seemingly insoluble, simply because the harvesting season requires plenty of hands during its short period, after which they're no longer needed.

To date, the situation of the Southeastern migrant workers has received relatively little attention, yet their condition is no better, and probably will tend to become worse, than that of the workers in the West. Out there, the progressive seasons, starting at the lower end of California and working all the way up to the apple orchards of the State of Washington provide a longer period of fairly steady employment. Along the Atlantic seaboard, employment is spotty. In the case of fruit pickers, work begins in Florida and continues through the Georgia peach belt on up through the Carolina sandhills, which also have vast peach orchards. Other crops are harvested in a progression which begins in Florida and proceeds on up through the truck gardens of the Eastern Shore. But there is no assurance of continuous employment, and the whole working season is short. The harvesters come in their jaloppies, do the work which they urgently need and which needs them just as urgently, and then move on. Agriculture can not get along without them, nor can it take care of them.

One reason why the problem is likely to become steadily worse in this region is to be found in the increasing mechanization of Southern farms, particularly in the older cotton regions. To compete with the new cotton areas of the Southwest, planters are faced with the necessity of consolidation. Moreover, the mechanical cotton picker already is a fact, and within a few years it may displace a vast number of harvest hands, mainly Negroes. Since the existence of these people already is rather precarious, loss of work in the cotton fields must certainly result in a great migration. Baltimore, Philadelphia and other cities may as well expect a great and permanent increase in their already large Negro populations.

We know of no solution to this growing problem: but it must be faced.

Migrancy Problems Imperil U. S. Defense Program, Tolan Says

NOV 23 1940

WASHINGTON —(AP)— The job-seeking wanderings of 4,000,000 destitute farm and industrial workers has created a situation that imperils the national defense, Representative Tolan (D., Calif.) said Saturday.

Chairman of a special House committee investigating the problem of interstate migration, the Californian told newsmen that existence of this jobless segment of the American population was "undermining the morale of our people and anything that strikes at the morale strikes likewise at national defense."

He said nearly six months of hearings in scattered sections of the nation had brought a number of suggestions for action by Congress and the states. Final sessions of the group open here Nov. 29 when witnesses from the District of Columbia and Virginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania and West Virginia will be heard.

Tolan said among the more important recommendations already submitted to the committee and which may be incorporated in a report to the House in January was one proposing the enactment by the states of uniform settlement and residence laws.

"To us," he said, "this seems the most pressing problem of all. As a result of varying residence requirements ranging all the way from six months to five years, nearly all of the more than 4,000,000 migrant workers today are homeless, stateless and voteless.

"They can't receive aid in their states of origin because they have lost residence there and neither can they be helped where they now are because they haven't been in the state long enough. It is a depressing situation which must be met positively."

MIGRANT GROUPS HELD A DANGER TO NATION

Church Missions Warned on 'Seed Beds' of Revolution

DEC 9 1940

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J., Dec. 8—Migrant groups provide "fertile soil for revolutionary seeds" in this country, it was declared here today at the annual meeting of the home missions council and the council of women for home missions.

The groups held a joint session at the Hotel Dennis preliminary to a conference of seven cooperating religious agencies to be held Tuesday and Wednesday.

A report by a joint committee of cooperating boards on the Christian approach to Jews, to be presented tomorrow, stresses that the future of all Jews depends upon what happens to them in this country.

Former Governor William E. Sweet of Colorado told the meeting that the most subtle dangers confronting the United States are from people who have never known the American way of life.

"Migrants, the internal problem," he said, "are persons who have lost, or are losing, their economic independence. They are ready tools of the dictator."

Dr. Mark A. Dawber of New York City said that "migrant centers are a natural seed bed into which revolutionary ideas are easily sown." He said 90 per cent of the migrants are native-born Americans who have been denied "the essential minimum of those things required for a decent standard of living." He declared that unless we consider decent living as a right instead of a privilege some one—"perchance a dictator—will arise, as in Germany, who will give meaning to these conditions."

The groups conferring here this week are the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America, Home Missions Council, Council of Women for Home Missions, Foreign Missions Conference of North America, Missionary Education Movement, National Council of Church Women and United Stewardship Control.

LABOR - 1940
MIGRATION MOVEMENT

Memphis, Tenn. Commercial Appeal
December 5, 1940

Boyle Issues Strong Rebuke To Group For Racial Charges; G-Men May Aid In Cleanup

'Policing Our Business'

The Memphis Commission on Interracial Co-operation was sternly rebuked by Commissioner Boyle yesterday for making charges of police intimidation and persecution of negroes.

The commissioner's rebuke was made in a letter addressed to Dr. S. E. Howie, chairman of the commission. The charges were made in a resolution adopted by the commission last week and presented to Mayor Chandler.

"It's Our Problem"

The group's statement to the Mayor was handed to the commissioner yesterday on his return from Washington, and drew immediate response in a letter to Dr. Howie, suggesting the committee leave the problem of enforcing the law to the Police Department.

"Lawlessness of this city," the commissioner's letter said, "is our problem night and day, and we suggest you leave it to us. We know what we are doing."

The commissioner charged local negro newspapers with endeavoring to incite race troubles here by printing flagrant and unjustified articles, and refused to meet with the commission in an effort to iron out problems.

"I observe," he said in the letter, "that James C. Dickerson, Weldon Beasley, Z. L. Bonner and Louis O. Swingler are members of your committee. These men run negro newspapers in Memphis and for many months have been carrying on a campaign with inflammatory articles calculated to disrupt the present friendly relations between the white and negro races of this community.

Negro Editors Warned

"For your information, Z. L. Bonner lost his job at the postoffice for failing to account for some money. Do you think for one moment that I would meet with Bonner to advise about law enforcement in Memphis?"

The commissioner warned "these selfish and unprincipled negro paper promoters" they will not be allowed "to carry on and conduct themselves in Memphis as if they lived in Chicago, Pittsburgh or Philadelphia." This is "white man's country," he said.

Commissioner Boyle pointed out emphatically that he expects the negro to be treated fairly and that he has all the legal rights of a white person. The negro race, he says, has turned out lawyers, doctors and educators who are a great credit to their race.

Will Show Tax Use

As for the negro taxpayer being dissatisfied because he feels he does not receive consideration for his taxes, the commissioner said:

"Mayor Chandler will very shortly give a detailed statement of what taxes the negroes pay for their schools, playgrounds, wading and swimming pools, hospitals, lights, parks—in fact, everything.

"With their large population, it is less than 5 per cent of the taxes paid. The total amount collected would not pay for what is spent for negro health at John Gaston Hospital, to say nothing of the Shelby County Hospital and the Insane Asylum. Negroes contribute less than $1000 to the Community Fund and receive approximately $30,000 worth of benefits from this agency alone.

"When you see these detailed facts you will see clearly what the white people have been doing for the negroes and resent, as I do, the presumptuous ingratitude of these negro editors and the few discontented colored preachers . . . who object to white supremacy."

The complete text of Commissioner Boyle's letter to Dr. Howie is as follows:

"Dec. 4, 1940.

"Rev. S. E. Howie, D.D.,
"Chairman of the Interracial Co-operation Committee,
"1233 Lamar Avenue,
"Memphis, Tenn.
"Dear Sirs:

"Upon my return to the city yesterday Mayor Chandler referred the statement of the Commission on Interracial Co-operation to me for consideration.

"I observe that James C. Dickerson, Weldon Beasley, Z. L. Bonner, Louis O. Swingler are members of your committee. These men run negro newspapers here in Memphis. For many months these papers have been carrying on a campaign with inflammatory articles calculated to disrupt the present friendly relations between the white and negro races in this community.

Must Stop Articles

"For your information Z. L. Bonner lost his job at the Postoffice for failing to account for some money. Do you think for one moment that I would meet with Bonner to advise about law enforcement in Memphis? Nor would I meet with the others named above on account of their activities in endeavoring to create race trouble here with their papers. And right now I must tell you that for the good of this community unless they stop these articles, I expect to show them the way out of the city. I am very positive on this.

"These selfish and unprincipled negro paper promoters must know they cannot write this character of stuff. They are not going to carry on and conduct themselves in Memphis as if they lived in Chicago, Pittsburgh and Philadelphia.

"We have never had it before and we will never have it. For after all this is a white man's country.

"These papers have been talking about the taxes negroes pay and the negroes should make certain demands and assert themselves on that account, and emphasize the fact there shouldn't be any white preferment. Mayor Chandler will very shortly give a detailed statement of what taxes the negroes pay for their schools, playgrounds, wading and swimming pools, hospitals, streets, lights, parks—in fact, everything.

"With their large population, it is less than 5 per cent of the taxes paid. The total amount collected would not pay for what is spent for negro health at John Gaston Hospital, to say nothing of the Shelby County Hospital and the Insane Asylum. The negroes contribute less than $1000 to the Community Fund and receive approximately $30,000 worth of benefits from this agency alone.

Sees "Arrogant Way"

"When these detailed facts are shown you will see clearly what the white people have been doing for the negroes and resent, as I do, the presumptuous ingratitude of these negro editors, and the few discontented colored preachers, like Rev. Long, Gibson and Perry, and two or three more, who also object to white supremacy. Yet they ought to realize that except for the payment of the greater burden of taxes by the white people, there would be no money to do anything for the members of their race. I will deal with them if they continue their present activities. The white people are making everything possible for the negroes, but they are not complaining. The negroes who contribute nothing are the ones who are demanding more and in an unbecoming and arrogant way.

"I fully realize that these discontented elements represent a very small and insignificant proportion of our negro population who are and have been honest, contented and lawabiding citizens. We have many very excellent negro doctors, several good lawyers, hundreds of good and well-meaning negro preachers, and with Professor Blair Hunt our school teachers are far above the average—outstanding in the South and a credit to the city and the race. Likewise there are many negroes engaged in small businesses, in restaurants, and as merchants, undertakers, insurance agents and mail carriers. I do not mean in the slightest way to reflect on the good, honest negro who does not, I am sure, approve the activities of this fanatical, unappreciative group, seeking a social equality which will never come in this community. Of course, the negroes are privileged to engage in any legitimate, lawful occupation and they need not fear the police.

Seeking to Enforce Law

"As fire and police commissioner I have and am still endeavoring to enforce the law regardless of race, color, class or creed.

"Please don't be disturbed—have no misgivings about the negroes here. Much has been done for them. Mayor Walter Chandler, Mr. E. W. Hale, and Mr. E. H. Crump have had their interest at heart for many years—long before a majority of the Interracial Commission came to live in Memphis.

"Dr. J. B. Martin, who runs a drugstore on Florida Street and lives in that neighborhood, is a minister of evil, fence for thieves, buys stolen property, has been a professional bondsman, extorts money from the poor and unfortunate. He is an unworthy citizen. Memphis would be better off without him. He is certainly no credit to the negro race.

"Lawlessness of this city is our problem night and day, and I suggest you leave it to us—we know what we are doing.

"We are especially apprehensive of the illegal traffic in narcotics. Dr. J. B. Martin, and his brother, Dr. B. D. Martin, dentist, have been under suspicion and investigation for a long time.

"Beyond Understanding"

"Of course, you are not informed and it would be a careless assumption for you to acquit anyone until you know all the facts.

"Dr. J. B. Martin and his wife went out to Barnum & Bailey Circus and being of light color bought tickets and sat in the seats reserved for white people. He gloated over this social equality.

"It is utterly beyond my understanding how you white ministers can get in on a proposition of this kind when you are so poorly informed on what is actually going on. You cannot realize the character of negro you are defending. Dr. J. B. Martin is running a hideout for thieves on Florida Street and is just a common thief.

"Yours very truly,
"JOSEPH P. BOYLE,
"Commissioner of Public Safety."
"JPB:H"

Howie Awaits Letter Before Replying

Dr. Howie, chairman of the Commission on Interracial Co-operation, last night said he had received no communication from Commissioner Boyle regarding a statement issued by the commission to Mayor Chandler last week.

"And I will have no statement to make until I do," Dr. Howie said.

The commission was organized six months ago through the Memphis Ministerial Association. Negro leaders, Dr. Howie said, called on the association and asked that organization be created which would permit the white and negroes "to get together."

The association named a committee headed by Dr. Howie to look into the need of such a commission and the committee reported the present organization. The commission had a few meetings early last Spring but none during the Summer.

Two meetings were held this Fall. The action charging police with "intimidation" and "persecution" of negroes was made at the second meeting.

Members of the commission present at the meeting when the

action was taken were:

Dr. Howie, pastor of Westminster Presbyterian Church; Dr. Charles E. Diehl, president of Southwestern; the Rev. William G. Gehri, rector of Grace-St. Luke's Episcopal Church; Prof. H. J. Steere of State Teachers College; the Rev. Alfred Loaring-Clark, St. John's Episcopal Church; Dr. J. J. Walker, Central Christian Church.

The following negro members were present: Weldon Beasley, J. A. Beauchamp, M. W. Bonner, Z. L. Bonner, Dr. A. Byron Carter, James C. Dickerson, Rev. A. S. Owen, Matthew Thornton and Rev. A. W. Womack.

Other members of the commission, but who did not attend the meeting are: Dr. H. W. Ettelson, raobi, Congregation Children of Israel; Dr. E. G. Hamlett, former superintendent of Memphis Methodist District who recently was transferred to Amarillo, Texas; Dr. Ralph C. Hon, professor at Southwestern; Dr. W. B. Selah, pastor, St. John's Methodist Church; the Rev. Marshall Wingfield, pastor, First Congregational Church; Louis Barnett of Barnett-Levey Co.

The following negro members did not attend: Rev. W. A. Johnson, S. W. Qualls, Lewis O. Swingler, Rev. N. T. Walker, Rev. A. McEwen Williams.

Sympathetic

Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins is shown above as she testified before the House Committee on Interstate Migration, advocating extension of certain social legislation benefits to the "oakies" and "arkies," migrant farm workers. She said they could be placed under the Wage-Hour Law, Social Security Act and other legislation covering other workers.
—Associated Press Photo

Don't Migrate In Hunt For Jobs, Petree Advises

DEC 18 1940

Birmingham News

MONTGOMERY, Ala.—(AP)—Alabamians were advised Friday not to migrate to other states in search of work "unless they are certain of employment."

Birmingham Ala?

The advice was issued by Industrial Relations Director John D. Petree, who quoted the Florida Industrial Commission to the effect a "serious" situation had developed due to a recent influx of job-seekers.

No resident of Alabama should leave this state in search of a job until he has contacted the nearest office of the State Employment Service on available jobs elsewhere in the nation," or has work definitely lined up, Petree said.

Chairman Parks Glover, of the Florida Industrial Commission, wrote Petree that "the influx of transient workers is creating a serious problem" in the state, and that no employment was available on defense projects.

Michigan and Pennsylvania previously had appealed to the Alabama agency to advise against migration to those states in search of work.

SEVERE HARDSHIP FOR MIGRATORY WORKERS BARED

Times-Picayune New Orleans, La.

Housing Conditions at Camp Blanding Described by Traveler

DEC 18 1940

(The Associated Press)

Memphis, Tenn., Dec. 17.—With people sleeping in automobiles five to a car, housing conditions for migratory workers at Camp Blanding, Fla., are the worst yet encountered on an inspection tour by Mrs. Roberts Williams of the National Travelers' Aid Association, Mrs. Williams said here.

Mrs. Williams has visited Fort Benning, Fort Bragg and projects at Norfolk, Va., and Charleston, S. C., besides Camp Blanding. At the Florida camp she said she found:

About 3000 persons living in lean-tos, automobiles "and others sleeping in the open, with only mattress and blanket, in 22-degree weather;"

About 2000 housed in barracks;

Some of the 19,400 employes commuting from Jacksonville—47 miles away—and from smaller cities.

"There was severe suffering and hardship," she declared. "Water had to be carried from a lake half a mile distant. And there were no sanitation precautions.

"Smouldering fires for warmth, and for the cooking of food when they had it, presented a terrible hazard. Some were still without jobs. Some had jobs but had to wait 10 days for pay."

One worker, who she said had been dropped by the WPA, left his indigent parents in Georgia and hitch-hiked to Camp Blanding. She said he stood in line before a camp contractor's employment window for three days, slept out in the open four nights, and was too weak from fatigue and exposure to go to work when finally hired.

Mrs. Williams, here to confer with Memphis Travelers' Aid officials, will leave Thursday for Nashville. She said she would inspect Camp Peay, Tullahoma, Tenn., where "I've heard conditions are second to Camp Blanding."

LABOR - 1940
MIGRATION MOVEMENT

Sociologist

Dr. RUPERT B. VANCE

Vance Defends Migrant's Right To Move About

His Testimony Heard As Hearing Is Begun On Migration Problem

By SARA CRIST

Haltingly-told stories of personal misery and crisp statistics-filled reports of experts in farm and social problems poured out all day yesterday before a congressional committee investigating the plight of destitute migrants of the Southern States.

For the personal tragedies unfolded through the questioning of Representative John Tolan, California, chairman, and the members of his committee, there seemed no solution.

As solutions for the migrant problem as a whole the expert witnesses suggested Federal aid, better prices for farm products, better opportunities for rural families, larger farm operating units cooperating with similar units in other parts of the country whose peak labor demands do not coincide, and developments of subsidiary crops to provide additional employment during slack seasons. All agreed that it is a problem with which the Federal government should deal. From the testimony the committee hopes to evolve plans for remedial legislation.

Dr. L. N. Duncan, representing Gov. Dixon, welcomed the committee, the witnesses and the audience, made up largely of social workers and educators.

Howard Gray, president of the Alabama Farm Bureau Federation, first of the witnesses, told the committee that "disadvantages to which farmers have been subjected in the market place" is the reason for their leaving home. People move, he said, because the opportunities elsewhere seem to be more attractive. If we are to deal successfully with the problem of migrating farmers, we must arrest that movement in its inception by making farming more attractive and by raising the standard of living for farm people. "Income," he said, "is the center of the problem. When we achieve parity and do away with discrimination against the farmer, farm life will be as attractive as any other alternative and migration, because of this fact, will be reduced to a minimum."

Dr. Vance Prescribes

In his attack on the problem of four million Americans on the move Dr. Rupert B. Vance of the Institute for Research in Social Science, University of North Carolina, said "The only alternative to greatly increased migration from the South is a more rapid industrial development than is at present conceivable." After giving figures showing the tremendous increase in migration away from the South in the past 50 years Dr. Vance said: "Those who would estimate the possible future migration out of the Cotton Belt will have to tell us what policies the government will adopt toward the cotton surplus, what other paying crops the South can grow, what other methods of using the land we can employ beside cotton tenance and share cropping."

"The war and its probable outcome," Dr. Vance continued, "has made the question loom much larger and darker in outlook than the old familiar problem of recovering foreign markets. It is that we are faced with the long-time problem of reconstructing an out-moded cotton economy. Unless we can make some progress toward agricultural reconstruction, pressure toward migration will be great indeed." Dr. Vance, however, views migration not as an evil but as a safety valve for the South and regrets that many of its workers are not educated and trained in the industrial disciplines well enough to give working men in other areas real competition.

Right to Migrate

He pointed to migration as a constitutional right of every American citizen and an economic necessity in the American system. "Without migration," he said, "we cannot equalize our unequal flow of population increase, redress our regional inequalities, balance the demand for labor between changing employment capacities nor use our human and material resources to the best advantage. Vagrancy laws to the contrary, the fact that a man has little or no money in his pocket is no valid reason for depriving him of his right to migrate across State lines. The right to move may seem a poor substitute for real security, but it must not be forgotten that for many of our citizens it has proved the road to increased well-being."

P. O. Davis, director of the Alabama Polytechnic Institute extension service, said that unlike the pioneer migrants who were responsible for the settlement of this country modern migrants move seeking employment and wages, making of migration a career. One great cause of migration from this area, he said, is the dissatisfaction of farm women with their homes. He spoke of the highly congested conditions on the land of the southeast and the fact that in this section there were only six acres of crop land to each farm person, reasons for between three and four million southern farm yo having moved to industrial centers in a single decade.

"Remove the Cause"

"The best way to treat the problem of rural migration," said Mr. Davis, "is to remove the causes by making it more profitable and more desirable to stay on farms. Long time contracts, better housing and better prices are desirable but we also recognize the responsibility of intelligent education to accompany or precede changes. It is obvious that when we reach the goal of economic and social security Alabama will not be a source of migratory, destitute farmers."

Describing himself as an ex-migrant because he left his Georgia farm home to seek an education, T. M. Campbell, field agent for the U. S. Department of Agriculture in the Farm Extension Service of Tuskegee Institute, said that the Southern negro may not travel as far but he changes his place more often than the Southern white man. The reason, he said, is that the negro of the rural areas has not sufficient occupation for subsistence during the 12 months of the year. As other factors in negro migration he mentioned exploitation and discrimination by white people, lack of educational advantages which he said caused many negroes to go without proper food and clothing so their children could go to school, and the fact that the negro is left out of the plans in the South's one-crop economy.

The negro, Campbell continued, migrates North not for social equality as some mistakenly believe, but for economic security, educational and citizenship advantages. Of those who have gone North from this section many have educated children who are now filtering back as teachers. He said that race friction was notably increased in the Fall at harvest time because of disagreements over crop settlements and urged the need for a better contract system. Poor health, lack of recreational facilities, lack of public hospitals as well as poverty encourage the mobility of the South's negro population.

A Migrant Testifies

All the theoretical reports of the experts suddenly took life with the testimony of a ragged, frightened negro victim of the economic section. Born in Lowndes County, he said his age was 43, "so my daddy say, I don' rightfully know myself, and been farming all my days." He moved the first time because the landlord would not have the house fixed and every time it rained his things got wet. He said he made a good crop once but "de guvmint made me plow up all my bes' cotton." People told him he was entitled to benefits for the plowed up cotton but he never got any and kept moving because he "didn't have nuthin to live on."

His wife's brother had a job in Cleveland and he went there in search of work. Finally he got a job in a scrap yard but "they commenced laying me off every few days and I didn't have nuthin to eat," he said. He applied for relief but was told he would have to live there two years to be eligible. He believed he would starve to death in that time so he came back South. He works now on a farm cultivating vegetables in season for seven cents an hour or picking cotton at 50 cents a 100 pounds. He has never been on relief but believes if he were he would "sho see better times than now 'cause they sho' gives you somthin' to eat."

Another Migrant

A migrant of an entirely different type on the stand was a 29-year-old graduate of the College of the City of New York. He had various jobs all over the country until jobs and money both gave out and he was "forced to go on the bum." He spoke of having talked to hundreds of young men like himself on the road who had held semi-skilled jobs at times but were lost when they could not find employment. They go from place to place, he said, because they hear o jobs, have a hunch they can find work in some other place or because they face arrest and an indeterminate sentence for vagrancy if they can show no means of support. Sixty per cent of them he is sure are honestly looking for work, the rest are "floaters." Most of them register with local employment offices but they have no money to keep them alive long enough to wait for the jobs they might offer.

He said he found no difficulty crossing State lines because "the police are always glad to have you leave. Coming in they don't see you." His income on the road varied between $100 and $150 a year. He is working now in Alabama for an annual salary of $250.

Testimony on migrant sugar and strawberry workers in Louisiana was offered by Harold Hoffsommer, professor of rural sociology at Louisiana State University who said the Southeast was a principal area of population replacement for the rest of the country. Prior to 1930, he said, migration drained off most of the increase, but these people are now confronted with unemployment in the cities, and the absence of an agricultural frontier and even if normal migration were resumed the resulting adjustment would still leave a hypothetical four to five million surplus population in the Southern States.

Sugar Bowl Problem

One of the most persistent problems in the Sugar Bowl he said is that of providing sufficient year-round employment for the labor population in the area. On Louisiana sugar plantations one-third of the work was done by non-resident laborers in October, November and December. A variety of wage jobs was reported as furnishing income between cane seasons. For the strawberry season of about six weeks, he said, about 10,000 pickers, many of them children, are hired from the cities. How and where these people live during the remainder of the year is one of the committee's problems. Hoffsommer favors the establishment by the Federal government of small one family subsistence farms but does not think that an ideal solution. Federal placement service and dissemination of information on available jobs might be of some help in his opinion.

Next of the migrant witnesses introduced was a 50-year-old woman, native of Mississippi now living in Selma, who had gone to public school five years before she went to work at 11 in a cotton mill. Twice divorced and with three children she has sought work in Mississippi, Alabama, and Texas as a cotton spinner. Currently she is living on relief in Selma, but she said: "I can't stay there if I can't get work by Winter—and I don't know where I'll go." In answer to Chairman Tolan's question whether other States should make Alabamians stay at home she said, "I'd rather starve moving and trying to get a job than starve sitting down here."

AUG 15 1940
AUG 15 1940

Tolan Hearing Ends Here On Migration Evil

Expert Witnesses Agree Cure Is Business Of Federal Government

Their minds stuffed with stories of human misery, the congressional committee investigating the plight of destitute migratory workers left Montgomery yesterday at the close of a three-day hearing which uncovered a vast amount of poverty, disease and semi-starvation and many suggestions for their partial alleviation but offered no hope for a panacea either now or later.

Every solution offered by the expert witnesses who came from North Carolina, Florida, Alabama, Louisiana, Tennessee, and Mississippi, to testify was based on some form of government appropriation on legislation increased relief grants, migrant camps, subsidies, and expansion of NYA, FSA, and social security programs.

In response to the advocates of migrant camps, Myron Falk, executive secretary of the Louisiana Council on Migratory Labor, said such camps would be like an ambulance below a steep curve, while the inclusion of migratory workers in the wage and hour bill and the social security act would fence off the dangers. To prevent many potential migrants from taking to the road he advised that funds be made available for the farm tenancy program.

Back to Farm

An Enterprise farmer who has had a varied career as secretary, law student, real estate operator, traveling salesman, gasoline distributor, and insurance salesman, told of a life of increasingly hard times until he returned to the farm as the only way left to provide food for his wife and two children. Financing his farming operations through an advancing merchant cost him 50 per cent of his earnings until he appealed to the Farm Security Administration. He is now paying 5 per cent to the FSA and plans to continue farming because, regardless of the conditions of cash crops, he believes his farm can keep his family well fed.

Credit for holding people to the land who would otherwise be destitute and on the road was claimed for the FSA by Regional Director E. S. Morgan who pointed out the close relationship between soil erosion and human erosion and said that since 1934 his agency and its predecessors had aided, through rural rehabilitation loans, more than 85,000 low income farm families in Alabama Florida, Georgia and South Carolina.

There are fewer acres under cultivation in the South today than in 1860. Mr. Morgan said, the land is far less productive now, but there are twice as many families trying to eke out an existence on those acres today as there were in 1860. The pressure of the population on the land is one of the South's biggest problems. The farm income in the South is the lowest for any section of the United States. The resulting sub-standard living conditions here inevitably mean bad health which imposes heavy costs on the national economy.

The main object of the FSA has been to assist Southern farm families in becoming self-sufficient and in raising their living standards with credit, supervision and planning as the fundamental of the program, Mr. Morgan said and offered as suggestion for solution of the problem a works program to restore over-cultivated lands and the working out of a better system of tenure.

Living example of the success of FSA was offered in the next witness, a 37-year-old Alabamian with six children now in his sixth year of FSA farming. Work as a farm day laborer and as a saw mill worker with long periods between employment stretches and seldom enough money to pay rent or buy food preceded his farming which he declared was now furnishing him and his family with the best living they had ever enjoyed.

Dr. H. H. Chapman, director of the Bureau of Business Research of the University of Alabama made the novel suggestion that a very considerable number of the present surplus population can be absorbed by the use of the South's scenic, climatic and recreational resources to greater advantage. He described as vital the extension of the present vocational training program as too many rural youth are totally unskilled. He also urged the development of non-farm occupations to the service of manufacturing industries and factory workers, and the development of new markets for farm products either as raw materials for the manufacturing process or for the use of the non-famr population.

Appearing on behalf of the Department of Social Sciences of Fisk University, Prof. Preston Valien told of the displacement of negroes by whites in many urban occupations such as barbering, truck driving and skilled building work. "The increasing urbanization of the negro population," he said, "makes necessary continuous study not only of its distribution, but also of the problems which urbanization creates both for the migrants and the old residents with respect to housing, health, employment, education, crime and deliquency. Action by the Federal Government in cooperation with the States appears to be a fundamental need toward a policy of planned migration with respect to negroes as well as whites."

Suddenly Destitute

The case of the farm worker who finds himself suddenly without a job, without a roof, hungry and bewildered was presented by a son of an Arkansas farmer who worked at share-cropping until the flood of 1927 made him destitute. He declared the migration is not voluntary but a last resort for a living.

The work of the Memphis Public Employment Center was described by the district manager, E. M. Norment, who stated that the center furnishes agricultural labor to farms and plantations in the surrounding territory in Tennessee, Arkansas and Mississippi, with placements running from 100 a month in January to 25,000 in September.

The father of a family worn down by malnutrition and the chills and fevers of malaria told of a succession of defeats from crop failures, floods and mill shut downs. Last November he moved to Lowndes County to farm on a "halves" agreement. Soon after he became ill and was sent by the Department of Public Welfare to a Birmingham hospital for treatment. During his absence the landlord refused to let the sons make the crop but agreed to hire the two oldest boys for day labor at $8 and $10 a month and board.

Then They Ran Away

After the first month the landlord stopped the board and instead gave the boys three pounds of salt pork and a peck of meal for food. Last week the landlord shot the younger boy's pet fice dog and the boy ran away. The landlord has given the family notices to get off the farm. They must do something immediately—but they don't know what.

Joseph F. Gelders, acting executive secretary of the Southern Conference for Human Welfare, prophesied that mechanization of cotton production is coming soon, probably first in the southwest, and will cut the heart out of the price of cotton. He proposed that Congress provide funds, probably through the FSA, to make loans to cooperatives of small owners, tenants and sharecroppers banded together, for farm machinery. This proposal, he said, if adopted, will turn the threat of ruin into real security. Labor will be decreased but new demands for consumer goods will be created and the economic basis of the small farmer will be established once and for all.

The committee, which came to Montgomery from New York, will open its next hearing in Chicago on Monday.

MIGRANT NEEDY SHOULD HAVE U.S. AID, SAYS MAYOR

Backs Relief Officials at Chicago Hearing.

Mayor Kelly supported Illinois and Chicago relief officials yesterday in their demand that the federal government give aid to unemployed who go from state to state seeking jobs. They testified before a congressional committee investigating the plight of migrant indigents thruout the country.

Neil H. Jacoby, chairman of the Illinois emergency relief commission, presented a written statement based upon an analysis of the migrant problem in Illinois.

Information Service Urged.

"The federal government should assume responsibility toward destitute migrants," Prof. Jacoby said. "Interstate travel of destitute as well as of self supporting unemployed is desirable so long as the migrants act with full knowledge of relative employment opportunities.

"The federal government should keep the migrants informed as to what they can expect to find in their travels."

Illinois' migrants usually go to neighboring states or to California or New York, he said.

Leo M. Lyons, Chicago relief administrator, said the average migrant is young, a native American, and able to work, and has taken to the road because he has lost his job.

Calls for Coöperation.

"The problem must be solved by the federal government in coöperation with state and local officials," Lyons told the committee.

Lyons ripped into the Illinois law passed a year ago which requires three years residence of an unemployed person in a city or township relief unit before he can obtain aid. This has not only worked hardship upon migrants but also upon long term residents who have moved away briefly to take temporary jobs, he said.

More dramatic was the testimony of migrants themselves. One was Joseph Miller, 46 years old, who until 1932 was employed as an electrician by a Chicago utility company. Discharged from WPA in 1937, he was able to get a job in the Gary, Ind., steel mills.

Tells of Wanderings.

"I traveled back and forth between Gary and Chicago daily, but finally, believing the job was permanent, I moved my family down there," Miller said. "Six months later I lost the job. All I could get was temporary relief.

"My sons, 18 and 21 year olds, got into the CCC camps. Then my wife and I traveled to Camden, N. J., Boston, Mass., and down to Pittsburgh, Pa., where I got a job in the steel mills which lasted three months.

"Now I'm back here and can't get relief because I haven't been a Chicago resident for three years straight. The United Charities is helping us. With one of my sons, we live in a single room."

"Because I didn't stay in Chicago and live off of relief, I'm being penalized. I got out to find work. I can't understand it."

Girl Migrants Testify.

Two sisters, Kathryn Lee, 18 years old, and Karen Lee, 20, tell of hitchhiking around the country since 1934 to keep up with elusive jobs. A policeman found them sleeping on a bench in Douglas park a week ago and took them to a Salvation Army emergency home.

"That's the first time in my life that any one offered to help us," Karen said.

Representative John H. Tolan [D., Cal.] is chairman of the committee, which will hold sessions again today and tomorrow in a courtroom in the federal courthouse.

RAPS MIGRATORY LABOR ABUSES AS HEARING ENDS

Labor contractors take advantage of migratory workers, frequently collecting advance fees for jobs that do not exist, Representative John H Tolan [D., Cal.] said yesterday.

Representative Tolan, chairman of the congressional committee investigating the plight of migratory workers, made the charge at the close of the committee's Chicago hearing. He urged that the states adopt uniform laws as to the residence requirements for relief.

Miss Edith Abbott, dean of the school of social service administration at the University of Chicago, told the committee that a single federal agency, under civil service, should provide both work and relief for the needy.

LABOR M 1940
MIGRATION MOVEMENT

Solution To Farm Migrancy Seen In Expanded FSA Work

Regional Director Thinks Wanderers Can Be Encouraged To Take New Lease On The Soil

BY HUGH W. SPARROW
Birmingham News Staff Writer

MONTGOMERY, Ala. — Further development of the Farm Security Administration program of encouraging distressed and idle farm folk to obtain a new stake in the land, on a firmer and more productive basis, was advocated today by E. S. Morgan, Montgomery, regional FSA director, as a likely solution of the migrant farmer problem.

Appearing as the initial witness on the third and concluding day of a congressional investigating committee's study of farm migrancy and closely related economic problems i nthe Southeast, Mr. Morgan said the government agency was seeking to anchor the idle and nomadic sharecropper, farm laborer and others to the soil.

By offering a means of buying a new hold on the soil, which most farmers love, and increasing the soil fertility, Morgan said, the agency is enabling many despondent and disgruntled farmers to come back.

Mr. Morgan went into a careful analysis of farm conditions in the Southeast, the area over which he serves as regional FSA director, pointing out that causes which have brought about the present farm migrancy problem did not originate with the depression but are due to many long standing economic factors.

Mr. Morgan also advocated "a works program designed to protect and restore our land, water and forest resources," and suggested a better system of tenure as solution of the surplus labor problem in the Southeast.

Among them he listed the gradual wearing out of the soil, the one-crop system, exorbitant interest rates for farm loans, the farm tenancy evil, and, more recently, declining markets, falling prices and the increasing trend to farm mechanization.

The committee also heard Joseph W. Gelders, representing the Southern Welfare Conference, who proposed legislation to create cooperatives enabling sharecroppers and tenant farmers to buy farm machinery to compete against what he said was the coming widespread farm mechanization in this country. Gelders predicted farm mechanization would not become general in the Southeast as quick as any other section, but added that legislation to protect the sharecropper and tenant farmer against its effects in other sections should be passed.

Another witness today was Myron Falk, technical assistant, Bureau of Public Assistance and Child Welfare, Louisiana Council on Migratory Labor and Transients. In general, Falk said, "migrants like residents seek the same economic security and good." They should be allowed all the privileges which are extended residents in their efforts to find security. The low income of the agricultural migrants accounts for some of their difficulties. They should be included under the wage and hour bill and under the social security act so that they can enjoy the benefits of unemployment compensation and old-age benefit payments."

Others on the program were Gerney Houston and C. P. Smith, of Coosa County, both victim witnesses; Dr. H. C. Chapman, University of Alabama; Prof. Preston Valien, Fisk University, department of social science; E. M. Norment, Tennessee State Employment Service district manager, and David A. Griffin, Fairak, Ark., and Reuben Little Lowndes County, Alabama, both victim witnesses.

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Dr. John Bryan, Jefferson County school superintendent and state NYA administrator, another witness, urged that the federal government seek solution of the migrancy problem in part at least by improving conditions of life, physically, educationally and culturally for young people.

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The speaker declared that two out of every three farmers in Alabama are tenants or sharecroppers, and added that between 1930 and 1935 the number of farm units in the nation increased more than 500,000, with a proportionate increase in the South.

Continuing, he said, however, that there are fewer acres under cultivation in the South today than in 1860, and that while the land is far less producetive, "twice as many families are trying to eke out an existence on those acres today as there were in 1860."

Too Much Stress On Cotton

The low income and low living standards of the bottom third of the South's farm population, he pointed out, have shut them out of productive economy "as effectively as if they were in another nation."

In the South, he declared, the farm income is the lowest for any section of the United States.

"For generations," Mr. Morgan continued, "the farmers in the South have followed a one-crop system of agriculture. We have depended almost entirely on cotton as a source of farm income. We have mined our soil year in and year out in an effort to get as much as we could from it, but the majority of farmers have neglected to put anything back."

The witness said there are more than 97,000,000 acres of badly eroded land in the South alone, and that at least 22,000,000 acres, an area as large as South Carolina, have been "ruined beyond repair."

After declaring farm tenancy is increasing and that two out of three farmers in Georgia and Alabama are tenants or sharecroppers, Mr. Morgan said that about half the tenant farmers in the two states move every year without improving conditions for themselves or for the landlords.

Emphasizing poor condition of the soil, due to years of land use, Mr. Morgan said that while the South has only one-fifth of the nation's income, it buys three-fifths of the fertilizer sold in this country. Land values, he pointed out, have declined since the World War "but there has been no drop in the mortgage burden which farmers had to carry."

"One-crop farming," he stressed, has been a terrific gamble for the farmers of the South. Three times in five years the price of cotton has jumped more than 40 per cent —once up and twice down."

Mr. Morgan disclosed that in many sections of the South farmers have paid as high as 25 to 35 per cent interest for crop loans, and in some places the price has been reported as high as 62 per cent.

As a result of high interest charges and other similar expenses, Mr. Morgan said that usually if the farmer has been unable to pay his advances from landlord or merchant he moves to another farm," to start all over again in this vicious cycle."

Health Conditions, Too

Today, more than ever, he said, the public is beginning to realize a definite relationship exists between soil and human erosion and to see and understand the substandard living conditions which a large part of the Southern rural population must endure.

Unfavorable social and health conditions are directly traceable to poor farm conditions, Mr. Morgan said, adding that a recent survey showed more than 1,300 health handicaps among 100 farm families and that of 109 farm women, 79 were suffering from injuries due to inadequate medical attention during childbirth.

Other causes of conditions leading to wholesale farmer migrations, Mr. Morgan said, are inadequate educational opportunities and the resultant high rate of illiteracy and continued boll weevil infestations.

"The Farm Security Administration and its predecessors since 1934 have aided, through rural rehabilitation loans, more than 85,000 low income farm families in Alabama, Florida, Georgia and South Carolina," Mr. Morgan said, after completing his list of the causes of farm migrancy.

"Many of these families were taken from the relief rolls. Some of them had sufficient resources to carry on their farming operations. They were the victims of the basic weaknesses in our agricultural system: the worn-out land, one-crop farming, poor tenure conditions, lack of credit or equipment and ill health."

Mr. Morgan said that rehabilitation loans on convenient terms are available for farmers to obtain a new hold on the land, to assist them in becoming self-sufficient and aid in raising their living standards.

Three FSA Fundamentals

After emphasizing that credit, supervision and planning are the three fundamentals of the FSA rural rehabilitation program, Mr. Morgan said large gains in income per family had resulted in the last five years and many farm families which otherwise would be listed among the swarm of migrants are today self-sustaining.

"We have shown briefly the shift in acreage from cotton to other crops in the Mississippi Delta and the resulting higher yields through more intensified farming methods," Mr. McNamara said in summing up the farm problem in his area.

"Such mechanization as has taken place has greatly reduced the number of mules necessary on the plantation. Indirectly, it may have reduced the labor necessary to use that mule and care for him. On the other hand, mechanization has created many new jobs in the way of maintenance and repairs of various types of farm equipment which will partially offset this loss.

"Plantations have added shops and employed people on a monthly basis at a substantial rate of pay to maintain the mechanical farm equipment.

"A question of importance, then, would be how much farther is the Delta likely to mechanize its operations? It seems that the answer to this would depend upon a number of different factors, including: Continuance of the present soil conservation program, and the price of farm commodities in relation to the price of farm machinery."

Planters are not quick to make changes involving a large amount of money required for purchasing mechanical equipment. and the sale of their mules and horse-drawn equipment, without a full complement of mechanically trained labor, he said, adding that investigations indicate few if any people have changed to tractors to reduce labor but that it has come about through necessity after losing labor are being unable to obtain sufficient farm labor.

Questioned closely by the committee, the witness stressed his belief that the mechanical cotton chopper and picker was not yet a great threat to employment on the farm.

Importance Of Planning

Urging "the importance of intelligent direction of available labor to places where opportunities exist," Miss Dunn declared:

"It seems to me that this becomes particularly important in this period when the defense program is resulting in new construction and the expansion of existing industrial plants to meet defense needs.

"Unless this is carefully controlled and directed, it may cause the worst type of transiency, the rush of hundreds of families to a new commodity or to a small established community which is wholly unprepared to meet the problem of that it take steps with the states to meet this responsibility as another line of defense against the hazard of unemployment which are destructive to our finest civilization."

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Hearing Seeks Causes Behind Migration Evil

Experts Want To Know Why A Jeter Lester Changes Into A 'Joad'

By SARA CRIST

The short route from "Tobacco Road" to "The Grapes of Wrath" was traced over and over yesterday for the benefit of the congressional committee hoping to evolve for the first time in the history of the United States, some sort of legislation to deal with the country's migrant population.

Why a Jeter Lester turns into a Joad is simple. But what, in the beginning, placed a southern farm in the "Tobacco Road" class centered the attention of this, the only hearing of its kind to be held in the South.

The competition from Cuban vegetables grown with "peon labor" and freight rate differentials operating against the South are contributing factors according to Mayor John Dulaney, of Pahokee, Fla. John Beecher, supervisor of Florida migratory labor camps for the Farm Security Administration, suggested soil depletion through erosion, acreage reduction and mechanization. Wages, housing, health and education were brought out as having taken a tremendous toll because of their sorry conditions in the South.

American Tragedies

Individual American tragedies in vast number were indicated Beecher's report of extortionate rents for one-room cabins without sanitation, heat, light or cooking facilities; crowded box-car homes; jammed tobacco barns and packed airless barrack stalls for families of migrant workers who must pay extra for the use of padlocked hydrants and whose food costs beyond all reason, because there is no way to cook or preserve it.

The most ominous aspect of this picture, he said, was the sort of lives the children of these families led, the kind of Americans they would eventually become. Education for migrant children must compete with vegetable picking—with the beans generally winning out. Speaking specifically of Florida but applying to other seasonal migration centers he declared that many employers believe it was necessary to relieve the workers of their pay each night through liquor, women and gambling to have them ready for work the next morning.

Beecher declared that 50 per cent of the negro migrant workers in Florida had syphilis, with percentages in other sections running as high as 75 per cent. The death rate from syphilis in West Palm Beach County was twice the State rate which in turn was the highest in the United States.

Of 50,000 vegetable workers in lower Florida, he continued, two-thirds live under conditions which were sub-human, insanitary and dangerous both to themselves and to the stable population. There was no spirit of adventure in their leaving home—they left to find a way of making a living. They would have to continue moving unless some other way was found.

The acute problems of the Lake Okechobee area led the FSA to locate there its first migrant camps in the eastern United States. The response of the Florida migrants to the advantages offered there were found to be highly gratifying but the camps offer only a minute solution to a vast problem.

Beecher suggested as permanent solutions further development of camps for migrants and control of migration at its source.

Dark Witness

A vivid account of the way the Belle Glade camps work out was presented in the testimony of a coal black, gold toothed resident who serves as chairman of the camp governing council in spare hours when he is not picking vegetables at $30 a month in season. This grinning father of eight said he wanted to be a tenant farmer because "when you rents you gets all you makes—but when you share you just gets half" but he was never able to raise the rent money. His first year at share-cropping he made $150, the next he "didn't make nothin'—the boll weevil kinder hit me," the third the weevils "got still wusser" and after that "he jist didn't clar nothin at all."

He lived in Florida picking vegetables for a while but he had to haul his water and the cabin had big cracks and finally there was nothing to eat. So he wandered to Virginia, Maryland, Delaware, New Jersey and back before he settled at Belle Glade where he is living better than he ever has in his life—preaching without pay because his congregation "aint got nothin' to give," directing the government of his fellow workers and picking vegetables with his wife and children.

Speaking as the single county physician for a normal population of 55,000 and a seasonal migrant population of 20,000 more Dr. William Weems of West Palm Beach County strongly recommended that the Federal government make it mandatory that all workers in food crops be given blood tests, health cards and treatment, where necessary, for venereal diseases with the responsibility placed on both employe and employer.

Condition In Delta

Turning its scrutiny from Florida to Mississippi the comittee heard from Read Dunn, representing Howard Stovall of the Delta Council, that while delta plantations have reduced cotton acreage in compliance with AAA production control progress, operations have been intensified so that with higher yields the plantations have been able to sustain practically the same farm population.

A smaller percentage of the population, he said, had been on relief in this section than in any other rural area of the nation except two small regions which had oil booms. He said there had been no appreciable labor migration from the Delta and no surplus of labor on the plantations but if the growers should be forced to follow an isolationist program with further acreage reduction, employment operations on the farm would naturally be less.

Oscar Johnson, president of the National Cotton Council of America, represented at the hearing by James Hand, testified that "Further curtailment of cotton acreage is unthinkable. It cannot be effected without serious labor displacement and without an enormous increase in the cost to the government. A further decrease will not only affect labor in the Cotton Belt, but will disrupt and disturb labor conditions throughout agricultural America."

There is no threat of mechanizing people off the farms of the Delta area according to Homer C. McNamara, speaking for the Delta Experiment Station at Stoneville, Miss., who estimated that Mississippi had only five tractors to a 100 farms as compared to Illinois with 63 tractors to a 100 farms.

Next on the stand was a white Montgomery relief client with six children and a fifth grade education who started his career at 35 cents a day in a Prattville cotton mill. For nearly 30 years he worked in cotton mills, some times eight months out of the year, sometimes less. His last work netted him $250 a year. Then he was disabled, the mill shut down and he went on relief at a total of $9.00 a week in cash and commodities.

This man feels very keenly the disadvantages of mill work. At best, he says, the work and wages are uncertain, the family can never plan ahead and there are never sufficient savings to carry them through periods of unemployment.

Negro's Complaint

Dr. F. D. Patterson, president of Tuskegee Institute, stating that the negro's basic reasons for migrating were economic, urged better living conditions for his race as a solution to the migrant problem. Give an opportunity for education and make easier the ladder from tenant to owner he begged and the negro will stay on the land.

"The tendency to strive to better their lot," he said, "should be met by attempts to provide the negro people with those aspects of living which democracy has taught all to expect and which are guaranteed by the constitution. The negro desires to be treated as a normal, integral and continuing part of the South. Too many are now permitted to remain or become liabilities because of their ignorance, high death rates and low productive capacity. These are the inevitable outcomes of few and inadequate educational facilities, poor housing and insanitary environment."

Prevention of human suffering rather than solution of an economic problem, Miss Loula Dunn, Alabama Commissioner of Public Welfare, told the committee, was her purpose in appearing. She spoke not for the migrant but for the person who does not migrate but lives on an economically stranded town where the whole community is forced to go on relief. Here, she said, is need for directed migration.

The Federal government, said Miss Dunn, must match relief to both resident and non-resident to meet the migrant problem. The lack of action by the Federal government in providing a national framework of legal and financial assistance to unsettled persons is increasing the health and welfare problems as well as increasing the "unsettled population." The problem of transiency being national in scope, the responsibility for taking the initiative in establishing a pattern of relief grants to states should, in her opinion, be assumed by the government.

These grants to the states, she went on, should in no sense be thought of as a substitute for the Federal works programs but should serve to underpin them in order that they may be better utilized in meeting the needs of the truly "employable unemployed." These grants should further be on a variable matching basis to allow for differences in the ability of states to finance such programs with their participation based on standards of performance defined by the government.

There was need, she said, for national planning for more nearly uniform settlement laws and interstate agreements in the handling of non-resident cases. The Federal government should also recognize that it has a logical responsibility for those persons who do not have a claim on the State or community where they are applying for assistance.

Minimum Wage Urged

H. L. Mitchell, secretary of the Southern Tenant Farmers Union, suggested a minimum wage law to be applied to crops on which the government was now paying a subsidy. He urged hearings on various crops and regions as prerequisites to the setting of the rates of wages and said that restriction of cotton production under the AAA was an important factor in the displacement of farm labor.

The AAA, he said, had encouraged the expansion of the holdings of land by corporations, absentee landlords and individual operators but had so operated as to throw out additional thousands of tenants and sharecroppers. Government subsidy payments had proved a means of enabling owners to purchase more tractors and other improved farm machinery which had displaced sharecroppers and tenants, he said.

The operation of a government program, of great benefit to the nation as a whole, he said, was working a hardship on the tenant farmer and sharecropper. The rural social structure was breaking up, a new system of agriculture was emerging and there was no place on the land for hundreds of thousands of farmers. As a part of national defense, there should be more coordination of both government and private agencies seeking in their various fields to aid in the solution of these pressing problems.

One child in eight born and educated in the South contributes his life production to some other section, according to John Bryan, Alabama administrator for NYA. Steps must be taken, he said, to provide additional employment opportunities for rural youth in this region. The NYA has elaborated a program of the kind needed to provide such employment. However, considered from the viewpoint of alleviating the conditions of the youth of the South so as to remove the cause of migration, the size and scope of the NYA program falls far short of the dimensions of the problem. Special appropriations, said Bryan, should be given to the NYA for the purpose of providing employment, educational and recreational opportunities for the youth of the areas from which migrations originate.

Final speaker of the day was a victim of a coal mine shut-down who, however, defiantly declared that he "never asked for no relief nowhere." He has been a migratory worker in Alabama, Florida, Louisiana, Tennessee, Indiana, Illinois, and Michigan, working in fruits and vegetables for about $300 a year. While he would rather be stationary, he finds he must travel to live, and he can get by by making the rounds of the crops.

LABOR - 1940
MIGRATION MOVEMENT

PHILLIPS BLAMES 'OKIE' PROBLEM ON WALLACEISM

Chicago Sunday Tribune Sept. 1, 1940

Migration Laid to Policy of Discouragement.

Oklahoma City, Okla., Aug. 31 [Special].—Gov. Leon C. Phillips of Oklahoma charged today that the New Deal farm policies of Secretary of Agriculture Henry A. Wallace are largely responsible for "okie" migrations to California. Gov. Phillips is a Democrat.

Gov. Leon C. Phillips.

A committee of five congressmen, headed by Representative John Tolan of California, has scheduled hearings at the capitol here Sept. 19 and 20 to investigate conditions depicted in the movie and novel, "The Grapes of Wrath."

"Oklahoma has lost 10,000 farmers and a population of 70,000 in the last 10 years because of the haywire policies of the New Deal braintrusters as dreamed up by this man Wallace," Oklahoma's 303 pound governor declared. "There is nothing wrong here except too much Wallaceism and an occasional lack of rainfall."

Migration Depicted.

"The Grapes of Wrath" describes how Oklahoma farmers are being driven from their land by mechanization of farm work, corporation control of vast agricultural tracts, and drouth. The story depicts their migrations to California and their disillusionment in failure to find work there.

Gov. Phillips said governmental regulation and farm administration red tape had discouraged farmers from trying to earn an "honest living."

"I happen to know what I'm talking about," said Phillips, "because I've got a couple of farms of my own. I have some tenants who are taking the New Deal farm cure.

Do Everything Except Plant.

"The idea, it seems, is to do everything except plant and harvest crops. The best farmers are those who succeed in producing the least and filling out the most government applications.

"It's enough to drive a self-respecting farmer to California where the people are even crazier than they are in Washington, D. C.

"As a matter of fact, California encouraged all these people to come west with a lot of phoney job promises and fresh ocean air. California sewed the wind and is reaping the whirlwind."

Phillips said he planned to attend the hearings and see that there is no attempt to give Oklahoma a black eye over the migratory situation. He said he would "tell them right from the shoulder" that Oklahoma's troubles originate in Washington.

MIGRANTS ARE VIEWED AS FEDERAL PROBLEM

Commercial Appeal Memphis 8-15-40

Better Farm Prices Suggested As One Cure

'LIVING AT HOME' URGED

Producing Of Own Food By Family Suggested As Possible Means Of Eradicating The Suffering Of Many

By The Associated Press

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Aug. 14.—The problem of the migratory worker is one with which the Federal Government should deal, witnesses told a Special Congressional Investigating Committee Wednesday.

Better farm prices and widespread adoption of a "live-at-home" agricultural program were advanced as means of throttling migration among Southeastern ruralists, although one witness advanced the theory that movements of population were "necessary to develop, maintain and stabilize the national economy."

Number Are Heard

Among those viewing the problem of migration, especially among agricultural workers, as one for the Federal Government to solve were Harold Hoffsommer, professor of Rural Sociology at Louisiana State University; A Frederick Smith, of the Florida Industrial Commission, Tallahassee; Samuel Friedberg, former migrant and now a Birmingham Salvation Army worker; and Mrs. Janie Hamilton, unemployed cotton mill worker, Selma, Ala.

Their recommendations came principally upon questioning by Representative John H. Tolan, (D. Calif.), chairman of the Congressional group, who estimated 300,000 migrants were "on the roads every day."

Dr. Rupert B. Vance, professor of sociology at the University of North Carolina, holding that migration was "necessary" in the national economy, said that "the problem of the Southern Appalachians results from the pressure of the Nation's fastest growing population upon diminishing resources of timber lands, coal mining and limited farm lands."

Right To Move Defended

"The right to move," he continued, "may seem a poor substitute for real security, but it must not be forgotten that for many of our citizens it has proved the road to increased well-being."

Howard Gray, president of the Alabama Farm Bureau Federation, asserted that migration among ruralists had resulted from "the disadvantage to which farmers have been subjected in the market place," pointign out taht with Government benefit payments included, cotton brought only about 71 per cent of a parity price.

"Live-Aat-Home" Urged

Advocacy of a more widespread "live-at-home" program, whereby farmers would produce what they consumed, came from both P. O. Davis, director of the Alabama Agricultural Extension Service, and Dr. Vance, while Professor Hoffsommer said he would favor as one means of meeting the problem the establishment of destitute migratory families on small subsistence homesteads.

Mr. Gray and Mr. Hoffsommer agreed that while mechanization yet had not replaced as many Alabama and Louisiana farmers as it had elsewhere, that expansion was likely, with resultant decrease in jobs.

Representative Claude V. Parsons (D., Ill.) recalled "my state used to ship thousands of mules into this section every Spring and hundreds of tons of hay every Fall," but that this condition did not exist any more because of advances in mecahnization. He held more widespread use of machinery had "killed the mule market" and coused overproduction crops which the animals formerly consumed.

MISSOURI HAS NO NEED OF TRANSIENT PICKERS

State Has Ample Labor To Handle Cotton Crop

Commercial Appeal Sept. 6, 1940

Special to The Commercial Appeal

CARUTHERSVILLE, Mo., Sept. 5.—The Missouri State Employment Service Thursday warned transient cotton pickers of the Tri-States against coming into this section to help in picking Missouri's 1940 cotton crop, stating that a large supply of local labor existed, ample for handling the Southeast Missouri crop.

D. H. Lee, manager of the Caruthersville agency office, said temporary offices had been set up in Charleston, East Prairie, New Madrid, Essex, Malden, Wardell, Hornersville, Steele, to aid both the farmers and pickers in handling the crop by providing landowners with needed pickers. Regular offices of the agency are at Sikeston, Kennett and Caruthersville.

In the past, local landowners pointed out, pickers have migrated from Tennessee, Arkansas and other nearby sections, hoping to get picking work, and have found but little "extra" picking available. Therefore they have become stranded here, and as the Winter season has come on, have become dependent on various agencies for support.

MIGRANT FARM WORKERS TELL OF EXPERIENCES

Migratory crop workers told a congressional investigating committee yesterday of their experiences in the tomato fields of Indiana and the onion fields of Ohio.

William G. Murray, professor of economics at Iowa State Teachers' college, urged that the Federal Land bank and the Farm Security administration coöperate in aiding small farmers to retain their holdings lest these farmers be forced into a migratory life.

The hearing, intended to piece together a picture of the life of the workers who travel from state to state to harvest crops, are being held in Judge Michael L. Igoe's federal courtroom. Congressman John H. Tolan [D., Cal.] is chairman of the committee. Congressman Claude V. Parsons [D., Ill.] presided yesterday

Congressmen Close Hearing On Migrants With Full Brief Case

Many Suggestions Put Forward In Attempt To Solve National Problem

BY HUGH W. SPARROW
Birmingham News Staff Writer

MONTGOMERY, Ala.— Satisfied that the hearing here this week had thrown much additional light on the complex problem of the migrant farmer and what to do about his plight, members of the five-man special investigating committee of Congress were en route Saturday to Chicago, where another regional hearing will open Monday.

Committee members spent Friday afternoon at Tuskegee Institute where they were shown the many features of the famous Negro school and returned to Montgomery Friday night preparatory to departing for Chicago.

While committee members hesitated in committing themselves as to what recommendation might be made to Congress later on, they admitted the hearings here and in New York had shown that most of the witnesses believe the question of halting the widespread migrations, especially of rural farm folk, to be a federal government task.

"We have obtained much information that will be helpful to the committee," Representative John J. Sparkman, of Alabama, told the witnesses and others present in the federal courtroom Friday when the hearing was concluded.

Increased relief grants, improved camps for migrants, a works program for rehabilitating eroded farm lands with idle farm labor to be used, expansion of the Farm Security Administration and the National Youth Administration and estab-

lishment of cooperatives through which small farmers, tenants, sharecroppers and others may purchase modern farm machinery were some of the suggestions laid before the committee.

The committee is headed by Representative John Tolan (D., Calif.), and composed of Representatives John J. Sparkman (D., Ala.), Claude Parsons (D., Ill.), Carl T. Curtis (R., Neb.), and Frank C. Osmers, Jr. (R., N. J.).

4,000,000 Migrant Workers Roam U. S.

CHICAGO—(AP)—An estimated 4,000,000 men, women and children wander over the nation each year in search of livelihood.

The estimate was made by Representative John Tolan (D., Calif.), chairman of a congressional committe investigating interstate migration.

Representative Tolan said that rural and urban areas probably furnished equal numbers for the huge army of poverty-stricken nomads.

All witnesses at the hearing regarded the problem as a national one whose solution rested with the federal rather than the state governments, Tolan said.

He asserted the government had spent large sums to eliminate interstate trade barriers "but not one cent for the regulation and protection of humans in interstate commerce."

He said the committee would recommend legislation curbing activities of some private employment agencies which encourage migration by advertising jobs but fail to provide them after exacting fees from the migrants.

Grants in aid from the federal treasury to state, resettlement of migratory farm families and uniform state settlement laws to better qualify migrants for relief were among other proposals which may be made.

advanced as means of throttling migration among southeastern ruralists, although one witness advanced the theory that movements of population were "necessary to develop, maintain and stabilize the national economy."

Among those viewing the problem of migration, especially among agricultural workers, as one for the federal government to solve were Harold Hoffsommer, professor of rural sociology at Louisiana State University; A. Frederick Smith, of the Florida Industrial Commission, Tallahassee; Samuel Friedberg, former migrant and now a Birbingham Salvation Army worker, and Mrs. Janie Hamilton, unemployed cotton mill worker, Selma, Ala.

Their recommendations came principally upon questioning by Representative John H. Tolan, Democrat, California, chairman of the congressional group, who estimated 300,000 migrants were "on the roads every day."

JOBLESS MIGRANT INQUIRY TO OPEN IN CITY TODAY

House Group to Hold 3 Day Hearing.

Jobless and destitute workers who pull up stakes and seek a new start in another part of the country, migrants who follow the harvest across the nation looking for temporary work — these and the thousands of other Americans who constantly are on the move will be the subject of an investigation beginning today in the federal building.

The inquiry will be conducted by Representative John H. Tolan [D., Cal.], chairman of the special house committee investigating the interstate migration of destitute citizens. Others on the committee are Claude V. Parsons [D., Ill.], John J. Sparkman [D., Ala.], Carl T. Curtis [R., Neb.], and Frank C. Osmers Jr. [R., N. J.].

The committee will conduct hearings in Chicago for three days. Previous hearings have been held in New York City and in Montgomery, Ala.

Congress to Get Study.

The committee will seek to determine methods to alleviate the conditions of migrants—both urban and rural—and will present its findings to congress. Several weeks or months may be required to complete the study.

Approximately 30 witnesses will be called during the Chicago sessions, among them many migrants who will tell of their problems—such problems as inspired John Steinbeck's novel "Grapes of Wrath."

Others who will testify include Mayor Kelly, Neil H. Jacoby, chairman of the Illinois Emergency Relief commission; Leo M. Lyons, executive secretary of the IERC; Joel Hunter, general superintendent of the United Charities of Chicago; M. W. Torkelson, director of regional planning for the state of Wisconsin; Edith Abbott, dean of the school of social service administration at the University of Chicago, and sociologists, health officials, farmers, and statisticians.

Brood Problems Cited.

Dr. Robert K. Lamb, chief investigator for the committee, said the investigation will be concerned with health, sanitary, residence, and educational aspects of the problem presented by destitute migrants.

"The testimony heard thus far indicates that migrants present many problems other than that of their own care and housing," Dr. Lamb said. "Often they carry diseases, create unsanitary conditions, and upset the economic balance of the communities they enter. And their children's schooling usually is neglected."

Discussing the problem presented by families who move out of the state in which they have a residence and then lose residence requirements necessary for obtaining relief, Dr. Lamb said:

"They move to get a new start elsewhere, and then they just keep on moving. There's nothing else for them to do unless they find permanent work. The harvest jobs which many of them seek are temporary. But a minimum number of workers is required in many localities at harvest time, and it looks good to those who don't know any better."

Federal Help For Migrants Is Requested

Better Farm Prices, 'Live-at-Home' Program Urged.

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Aug. 14. (AP)—The problem of the migratory worker is one with which the federal government should deal, witnesses told a special congressional investigating committee today.

Some of those who testified were migrants themselves, others educators and experts in varied fields.

Better farm prices and wider adoption of a "live-at-home" agricultural program were

Remedy Is Suggested For Ills Attending Migrant Farm Labor

Market Discrimination Is Blamed By One Witness At Montgomery

BY HUGH SPARROW
Birmingham News Staff Writer

MONTGOMERY, Ala.—The cause of farm migration in Alabama and elsewhere in the nation was laid to "the disadvantage to which farmers have been subjected in the market place" by Howard Gray, Alabama Farm Bureau Federation president, in a paper read today to a special congressional committee investigating the migrant farmer problem.

"When we achieve parity and do away with most of his discrimination, farm life will be as attractive as any other alternative," said Mr. Gray, "and it is my belief that migration because of this fact will be reduced to a minimum."

Gray was one of several witnesses before the committee hearing which opened in Federal Court rooms this morning. The hearing in Montgomery is the latest of several regional investigations being made by the committee before it reports to Congress with recommendations.

The committee is headed by Representative John H. Colan (D., Calif.) and is composed of Representatives John J. Sparkman (D., Ala.); Clark Parsons (D., Ill.), Frank Osmers (R., N. J.) and Earl Curtis (R., Neb.). Representative Osmers was not present when the hearing opened.

Testimony from educators, farm authorities and other experts on the migrant farmer problem in the Southeast and from parts of Louisiana, Arkansas and Missouri will be taken during the three-day hearing here.

Mr. Gray was preceded by Dr. L. N. Duncan, president of Auburn, who represented Gov. Dixon before the hearing, and briefly welcomed the investigators and expressed hope the meeting would result in much progress in solving the problem of farm migration.

Dr. Rupert Vance, University of North Carolina sociology professor and long-time student of the Southern farm problem followed Gray with a lengthy analysis. The problem was discussed from various economic angles, the speaker expressing the view that "I for one feel we are faced with the long-time problem of reconstructing an out-moded cotton economy." Unless some progress is made toward agricultural reconstruction, Dr. Vance added, "the pressure toward migration will be great indeed."

Other speakers heard during the morning were P. O. Davis, director of the Alabama State Extension Service, and T. M. Campbell, field agent of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, stationed at Tuskegee Institute.

"Undoubtedly people move because the opportunities elsewhere seem to be more attractive," Mr. Gray told the committee in his paper today. "If we are to deal successfully with the problem of migrating farmers, we must arrest that movement in its inception by making farming more attractive and by raising the standard of living for the farm people.

"There can be little stability of tenure, which is the opposite of migration, unless the incomes of the farms are adequate to support the farms and the people with a standard of living comparable with that that can be obtained in other lines or in other places by these people. The problem, therefore, largely centers in the problem of income.

"Permit me to point out that in 1939 the average farm income in Alabama from marketings both crops and livestock was only $310. In addition to this, government benefit payments amounted roughly to $100 a farm. With an average of four or five people to a family, it is not difficult to understand why $310 for farm marketings is wholly inadequate to furnish a standard of living sufficient to retain farmers on their farms.

"Our major problem in Alabama so far in maintaining the farm population on the land is caused by the low prices received for those products produced on the land. With our major crop, cotton, bringing only approximately 56 per cent of parity and those products which we must purchase bringing 123 per cent of parity, you can readily see why we, as farm people, have a most difficult problem trying to secure a decent living.

"Even with the addition of benefit payments which Congress has most wisely made available during the past seven years, the farmer's income from his cotton is only now approximately 71 per cent of parity."

The speaker declared, however, that farming "offers many advantages which do not appear in income figures," and added that it is true now just as it has been in the past that the future of America rests in the land.

He suggested that "one of three roads" must be taken by farm people "hand in hand with their federal government:

"1. Higher prices per unit on whatever products they produce or

"2. Lower prices per unit for those things which they must buy or

"3. Since there is apparently a limit to the amount of our agricultural products that the world will take, even at our presently relatively low prices, the income from the sale of these products will have to be divided among fewer people."

Conditions closely identical to those which caused the Oakies to descend on a forbidding land of milk and honey in the Steinbeck novel, "The Grapes of Wrath," were expected to be outlined by the 17 scheduled to testify here.

Soil erosion and deterioration, crop overproduction, market shrinkages and mechanical innovations closing the door to the farm laborer are listed among the specific problems to be discussed during the regional meeting here, according to committee members.

Similar problems have been aired during meetings in other sections of the United States and when the regional session are concluded the committee expects to report back to Congress and recommend corrective legislation.

That the problem of the migrant farmer is a national one, rather than one for the states to cope with individually was the assumption back of the appointment of the special House committee.

Representative Tolan said here today the committee might complete its inquiry within two days, but that the committee schedule makes provision for a third day, Friday, if necessary.

In addition to Mr. Gray, Dr. Vance and other morning witnesses, the other witnesses expected to be heard here are John Rust, Memphis, inventor of the mechanical cotton picker; Dr. F. D. Patterson, president of Tuskegee; Dr. Harold Hoffsomer, Louisiana State University; Presto Valie, social science department, Fisk University; Oscar Johnston, Memphis, National Cotton Council; James Hand, Stoneville, president; Miss. Delta council member; President; Dr. H. H. Mitchell, Southern Tenant Farmers Union, Memphis; Chapman, University of Alabama, Tallahassee, Florida State Employment Service; Harold Wall, Tallahassee, Florida State Industrial Council chairman; John Veeches, supervisor of FSA migrant labor camps in Florida; Dr. H. Hident Chapman, University of Alabama, and Milton Falk, Louisiana State Welfare Department executive sec-retary.

LABOR- 1940
MIGRATORY MOVEMENT

NEGRO MIGRATION: ITS PROBLEMS AND CONTROL

SEP 14 1940

By HORACE R. CAYTON
(Continued from last week)

Much of the migration from the South in the period we have been discussing was directed toward the west north central states (Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan and Wisconsin). The Negro population of that area increased from approximately 500,000 persons in 1900 to over a million in 1930.

In 1900 only one state, Ohio, had a Negro population of 100,000, while in 1930 each state in the division with the exception of Wisconsin, had over a hundred thousand, and both Ohio and Illinois had over three hundred thousand. Most of these migrants, as in other parts of the country, migrated to the large cities of this area. Chicago's Negro population increased 113.7 per cent during the decade 1920 to 1930; Detroit's 1941 per cent; Cleveland's 108.7 per cent and Cincinnati's 59 per cent. The migration to, and the settlement in, large cities of this district did not vary from the pattern which has already been described for the country as a whole.

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Chicago, I believe, presents an excellent area for the study of Negro migration and settlement in a large industrial urban center. In the first place, Chicago has the largest single Negro population in the world. Only Greater New York which is composed of 5 counties, has a larger Negro population and Manhattan Island alone has fewer Negroes than Chicago—having 224,670 to Chicago's 233,903. (Greater New York has a total Negro population of 327,706.

In the second place, the Chicago Metropolitan region has a number of divertant types of Negro settlements, varying from the highly urban slum district of the West Side to the rural small town settlements of Robbins, Illinois, located only 25 miles from the heart of the city. Within this region the tendency of the migrate Negro population to settle in the most urban areas is evident. Of the total Negro population of that area (15 counties of the states of Illinois, Michigan and Wisconsin) 97 per cent are in places over 10,000; 1.1 per cent in places 2,500 to 10,000; .4 per cent in places 2,500; 1.8 per cent in rural non-farm areas and .1 per cent on rural farms. Thus of the total 281,514 Negro population in the area, 273,170 are to be found in cities 10,000 and over, leaving only 9,544 in all other city size groups and in rural areas. This distribution varies greatly from that of the total population of the region which is much less highly urbanized. Only 87 per cent of the total population was found in places 10,000 and over in 1930 as compared to 97 per cent of the Negroes) and 3 per cent were on rural farms (as compared to .1 per cent of the Negroes).

Negroes have been residents of Chicago since its founding, and as a matter of fact, the first settler in Chicago was Jean Baptiste Point Du Sable, a San Domingan Negro. It was not, however, until the turn of the century that the Negro population became a significant factor in the population composition of the city. There were only 323 colored persons in Chicago in 1850, in 1860 there were 950, in 1870, 3,696, in 1880, 6,480, in 1890, 14,270, in 1900, 30,150 and as late as 1910 only 44,103. Between 1910 and 1930 the Negro population of the city increased by 203,753 persons—84,459 between 1910 and 1920, and 109,594 between 1920 and 1930. This represented an increase in the Negro population of Chicago of 148.2 per cent in the decade between 1910 and 1920, and 113.7 per cent between 1920 and 1930. During this twenty year period the Negro became an increasingly important factor in the racial composition of the city. In 1900, Negroes constituted 1.8 per cent of the population of the city. Their percentage increased to 2 per cent in 1910, to 3 per cent in 1915, to 4.1 per cent in 1920, to 5 per cent in 1923, to 6 per cent in 1925 and to approximately 7 per cent in 1930. Thus since 1903, the Negro population has grown at a faster rate than the total population of the city. From 1910 to 1930, the increase was at an increasing rate.

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1,000 Per Month Increase

The 1934 census of Chicago indicated that the Negro population had increased 4,000 between 1930 and 1934. There has been no census taken since that date and no reliable figures or estimates are available. A number of persons and organizations however, have made guesses as to the probable increase. Among them Lawrence Oxley, of the United States Employment Service, and Howard Gould, of the Chicago Urban League, estimated that there had been an increase in Negro population of approximately 1,000 per month. If this estimate were true, the increase would amount to 60,000 for the period 1934 to 1940, making a total of approximately 294,006 as of March 1940. A number of newspapers, civic organizations and real estate associations have estimated the present Negro population to be 300,000. The writer is of the opinion that these figures are much too high, but is not willing with the evidence at hand, to venture a guess as to the probable number. The reason that the possible increase in Negro population has received the attention which it has is because a number of persons throughout the city feel that Negro migrants from the South become public charges.

It should also be noted at this point that any increase in the Negro population will come as a result of migration. In Chicago, Negroes have the highest birth rate of any group, but the death rate is twice as high as that of the native whites and almost twice as high as that of th eforeign born whites. The infant mortality rate shows an even more startling difference. Thus, although the rate of natural increase for the foreign born white was 10.4 and the native white 7.6, that Negro was increasing at a decreasing rate, that is, negative 2.9 per cent.

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It has been stated before that any insight to the present migration of Negroes must be attained through a study of the history of the migratory movement which has characterized colored persons since the turn of the century. The most striking feature of northward migration during the post war period was its individualism. The motives prompting thousands of Negroes was not always the same, even in the case of close neighbors.

In general one can say that there was both a "pull" and a "push", each of which embodied a configuration of factors. The economic "pull" of the North were the high wages and better positions created by the need for a new supply of labor. To say that Chicago would be to invite hordes of black share croppers to invade the city. The growth of this myth is, in my opinion, the foremost factor in making difficult or impossible any improvement in the critical problems of housing, health and unemployment among Negroes in the city. With no method of establishing the truth or falsity of the proposition there is little that can be accomplished until the results of the 1940 census are made public.

The relationship between increase in the Negro population in cities and the problems of interracial adjustment are too intimately related that it is perhaps wise to spend some time on an analysis of the position of the Negro in a city such as Chicago and the possibility for increased tension which might arise from a disequilibrium in the delicately balanced race relations.

The position of the Negro in Chicago and in most urban centers can be regarded from two viewpoints — Negroes as competitors and Negroes as a fixed status group. In certain areas of social life in Chicago, Negroes participate as competitors, in others they are non-competitors. The competition of Negroes for space, for jobs and for political power in Chicago is recognized both by Negroes and by whites. Underneath these there is, of course, the Darwinian "struggle for survival" a basic and unconscious biological process in which, it has been pointed out, Negroes are steadily losing. Competition for space is a basic ecological process, which in a city where ethnical segregation occurs may be regarded as competition between ethnic groups. Whites in Chicago "allowed" Negroes to take over areas formerly occupied by white until the next territory in the path of the "invaders" was of value from the view point of the white inhabitants. Competition for space has been limited by restrictive coveanants which epitomizes the principle of fixed status in the housing field. Negroes are limited in their competition for jobs by lack of skills and training as well as race prejudice and probably only in times of labor shortage are Negroes competing with whites on equal terms.

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Power Through Politics

The political power of Negroes is fully realized by Chicago's politicians and by Chicago Negroes themselves, though they have never been able to exert the influence which their vote should give them, however in politics Negroes have made gains which could not have been attained through other means.

As a result of the limitations which have been placed upon Negroes, there has developed in Chicago a compact, physically isolated group, unable to enjoy most of the facilities enjoyed by the general population, and appearing to many whites as a constant threat to their property values, their health, their moral standing and their community organization. This conflict between the drive for the Negro for income, security and status and the fear on the part of the white population, whipped up by antagonistic real estate interests and reactionary commercial groups who fear Negroes might become public charges has, and probably will in the future break into open conflict. The race riot of 1919 resulted from the competition of Negroes from middle class whites for residential areas and with working class whites for jobs. The problems of adjustment which face an even larger population at the present time are basically the same, with one important additional complicating factor.

In 1919 Negroes antagonized a section of the white middle class

by moving into "their" territory and a section of the working class by competing with them for jobs. At the present time the additional problem of the reaction of large and influential groups throughout the city—civic leaders, business men, manufacturers and industrialists, and social workers—who are under the impression that the invading hordes of black share croppers will unindate the city and become a public burden is present. The racial prejudice which is to be found within most classes of white citizens in America, is being augmented by the sharp fear of the possible increase of taxes from an increased relief load. This had made large groups of persons aware of the "Negro problem" and has robbed Negroes of the tolerance of a group of persons with whom they have not previously been in direct contact.

Now, the building of a school in the Negro area, the beginning of a hospital drive, the installation of a traffic light, or any other minor improvement in the Negro community, calls forth from great numbers of these groups, a reiteration of the prevalent myth concerning further Negro migration.

In previous sections the writer has attempted to point out that much of the fear that large groups of Negroes are migrating to the city is unfounded. He has also attempted to show the disastrous effect which this belief has had on the difficult problem of interracial adjustment in the city. The obvious question which presents itself is that of the establishment of a policy of control. Undoubtedly as long as there are differences in economic opportunities in various sections of the country there will be a tendency for some of the population to move to those areas which offer them better opportunities. Such non-economic factors as sentimental attachment to various localities, cultural identification with various sections and plain lethargy, are in my opinion likely to be underestimated by persons who put too great emphasis on purely economic factors.

Industrial labor caused by restrictions imposed first, by war and then by the quota laws on European immigration. This, added to the acceleration of industry to meet the war time needs made the Negro an important factor in the labor "pool" of northern industry. Negro laborers were solicited throughout the South by agents for suc hindustries as steel and meat packing, and often they and their families were given free transportation to the North. In some instances the entire community, including the teacher, preacher and merchant came together. Labor was at a premium and the Negro was the only group to fulfill that need. In a very real sense Negroes contributed greatly to the winning of the first World War by the contributions they made in keeping industry abreast with the war time needs.

The "push" which made Negroes willing and even anxious to move northward came from the unfavorable conditions under which they were forced to live in the South. The boll weevil had endangered the whole cotton culture and the economic deprivation made Negroes more aware of the disparity between the high wages, superior social and educational institutions and civil rights which might be enjoyed in the North, and the jim crow laws. poor schools, peonage and lynchings from which they suffered in the South. In addition Negroes too were affected by "the lure of the city" which was part of the general process of urbanization and influenced all classes of people.

Once this migration got underway its character changed and for a period it became a great mass movement. Under its impetus people who otherwise would have been content to have been in the South joined in. With the post war depression in the middle twenties the northward movement slackened, and what had ben a steady stream of migrants dwindled to a trickle of persons shuttling northward and southward in response to individual family and personal motives.

More recently it has been alleged that a stream of migrants have been set in motion by the superior wages and allotments which are enjoyed by Negroes in the North from relief agencies. It is difficult to prove or refute such arguments. Indeed an increase of Negroes registered with social agencies or employed by the WPA does not establish the fact that new migrants are coming. It is just as logical to assume that an increasing of the number of Negroes (who live much closer to the poverty line) have been unable to maintain themselves any longer in private industry.

Incomes Low In Chicago

The income level of the Negro population in Chicago is surprisingly low. A study by the United States Department of Labor in 1936 demonstrated that 47.7 per cent of the Negro families in the city had an income which was less than $1,000 as compared with 16.8 per cent of the white families, and again 41.3 per cent of the white families received $2,000 or less as compared with 90.2 per cent of the Negro families. The disproportionately number of Negroes are found on the relief rolls is not then a surprising fact and simply reflects their inferior, subordinate, and insecure status in the economic structure of the city.

Much has been made over the fact that Negroes constitute 7 per cent of the total population, but contribute 40 per cent of the relief population. When it is taken into consideration that during the depression the Negro was first to be affected and has not as yet recovered his former position, this figure is understandable. In the first place, Negroes were relatively new in industry and thus had little seniority. Many Negroes, in fact most, were employed in industries which were not protected by unions. This lack of seniority and protection by unions added to the fact that Negroes are concentrated in the lower income brackets of the industrial hierarchy, made them the first and the most permanent sufferers from the depression. Likewise, it should be noted that it has been the observation of most of the employment service employees with whom I have talked that Negroes are being taken back into industry much less rapidly than are white workers. The result is that when the effects of the recovery are felt by other employees, Negroes are continuing to be unemployed, and their percentage or even their actual number on the relief and WPA rolls conceivably will increase without further migration.

I do not mean to indicate that there has been no Negro migration since 1934, but I feel certain that its extent has been highly exaggerated. The fear of this migration has done much to make more tense race relation within the city. The recent settlement law which required three years residence before an individual was eligible, was in the opinion of many persons aimed directly at the Negro. That this law has "boomranged" and has worked an injustice on many whites, who have moved from one township to another, indicates the danger and folly of attempting to single out a particular race against which to direct discriminatory legislation. Any plea for the alleviation social problems in the Negro community-such as for example, the housing problem whereby Negroes pay 25 per cent more rent than whites for similar housing facilities—is often met with the argument that to improve conditions in the black belt of Chi-

The difficulty in attempting to plan a migration policy in respect to the Negro is that racial prejudice might encourage policies which would act as a precedent for stripping Negroes of their constitutional rights. With the failure of the three-year settlement law there will be, undoubtedly, attempts to legislate more directly against Negroes on the basis of color. That these laws would not be constitutional will not necessarily deter persons from introducing them. It is obvious that this form of legislation strikes at the heart of our democratic ideology which is more important to preserve at the present time than is the development of a migration policy. It is certain however, that as long as the myth of migration continues extra legal methods, including discriminatory behavior on the part of public officials and agencies and even vigilante movements will develop.

It has been pointed out that Negroes were needed to meet the expanding industry during the first World War. At the present time the Negro constitutes the only labor pool from which [illegible] war economy can draw. If America should become involved in war, doubtless the situation in 1916 would be repeated and labor agents from Chicago would again scour the South to offer free transportation to share croppers. Many of the persons now connected with the basic industries who are decrying the possibility of further Negro migration might of necessity find it necessary to reverse their position. Any barriers to population movements, even if legal, might in a critical moment seriously hamper the rearmament program of the nation.

Further Study Needed

It is the opinion of the writer then, that attempts to control the migration of Negroes. even if such migration from the point of the community welfare was ill-advised, might endanger the constitutional rights of Negroes (and therefore the constitutional rights of all persons); and might prevent a smooth adjustment of the labor force to the expansion of productive facilities of the count y. At the present moment it is [illegible] any student of the problem that sufficent data is not at hand to evaluate the social consequences of this migration, much less attempt to determine what would be a social justifiable policy. The need for further study is to the writer the one obvious conclusion.

The nature of the adjustment of Negroes to cities is the resultant of many different factors. The type of adjustment varies according to the type of migrants—their background, birthplace, sex, age and expectations; according to the type of city—its location, its size, age, and economic function; according to the historical, social and economic circumstances under which the migration occurred, both in points of origin and points of destination; and according to the volume of migration at any given period. From the study of all of these facts in relation to the adjustment of Negroes to cities could be derived not only a general statement as to the present nature of Negro-white relations in the city studied, but also a description of the adjustment of Negroes to specific cities ,and ultimately a hypothesis on which to predict the nature of the adjustment of future migrants to specific cities and types of cities. When such data are available, it will be possible to plan a rational migration policy.

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by moving into "their" territory and a section of the working class by competing with them for jobs. At the present time the additional problem of the reaction of large and influential groups throughout the city—civic leaders, business men, manufacturers and industrialists, and social workers—who are under the impression that the invading hordes of black share croppers will unindate the city and become a public burden is present. The racial prejudice which is to be found within most classes of white citizens in America, is being augmented by the sharp fear of the possible increase of taxes from an increased relief load. This had made large groups of persons aware of the "Negro problem" and has robbed Negroes of the tolerance of a group of persons with whom they have not previously been in direct contact.

Now, the building of a school in the Negro area, the beginning of a hospital drive, the installation of a traffic light, or any other minor improvement in the Negro community, calls forth from great numbers of these groups, a reiteration of the prevalent myth concerning further Negro migration.

In previous sections the writer has attempted to point out that much of the fear that large groups of Negroes are migrating to the city is unfounded. He has also attempted to show the disastrous effect which this belief has had on the difficult problem of interracial adjustment in the city. The obvious question which presents itself is that of the establishment of a policy of control. Undoubtedly as long as there are differences in economic opportunities in various sections of the country there will be a tendency for some of the population to move to those areas which offer them better opportunities. Such non-economic factors as sentimental attachment to various localities, cultural identification with various sections and plain lethargy, are in my opinion likely to be underestimated by persons who put too great emphasis on purely economic factors.

industrial labor caused by restrictions imposed first, by war and then by the quota laws on European immigration. This, added to the acceleration of industry to meet the war time needs made the Negro an important factor in the labor "pool" of northern industry. Negro laborers were solicited throughout the South by agents for suc hindustries as steel and meat packing, and often they and their families were given free transportation to the North. In some instances the entire community, including the teacher, preacher and merchant came together. Labor was at a premium and the Negro was the only group to fulfill that need. In a very real sense Negroes contributed greatly to the winning of the first World War by the contributions they made in keeping industry abreast with the war time needs.

The "push" which made Negroes willing and even anxious to move northward came from the unfavorable conditions under which they were forced to live in the South. The boll weevil had endangered the whole cotton culture and the economic deprivation made Negroes more aware of the disparity between the high wages, superior social and educational institutions and civil rights which might be enjoyed in the North, and the jim crow laws. poor schools, peonage and lynchings from which they suffered in the South. In addition Negroes too were affected by "the lure of the city" which was part of the general process of urbanization and influenced all classes of people.

Once this migration got underway its character changed and for a period it became a great mass movement. Under its impetus people who otherwise would have been content to have been in the South joined in. With the post war depression in the middle twenties the northward movement slackened, and what had ben a steady stream of migrants dwindled to a trickle of persons shuttling northward and southward in response to individual family and personal motives.

More recently it has been alleged that a stream of migrants have been set in motion by the superior wages and allotments which are enjoyed by Negroes in the North from relief agencies. It is difficult to prove or refute such arguments. Indeed an increase of Negroes registered with social agencies or employed by the WPA does not establish the fact that new migrants are coming. It is just as logical to assume that an increasing of the number of Negroes (who live much closer to the poverty line) have been unable to maintain themselves any longer in private industry.

Incomes Low In Chicago

The income level of the Negro population in Chicago is surprisingly low. A study by the United States Department of Labor in 1936 demonstrated that 47.7 per cent of the Negro families in the city had an income which was less than $1,000 as compared with 16.8 per cent of the white families, and again, 90 per cent of the white families received $2,000 or less as compared with 90.2 per cent of the Negro families. The disproportionately number of Negroes found on the relief rolls is not then a surprising fact and simply reflects their inferior, subordinate, and insecure status in the economic structure of the city.

Much has been made over the fact that Negroes constitute 7 per cent of the total population, but contribute 40 per cent of the relief population. When it is taken into consideration that during the depression the Negro was first to be affected and has not as yet recovered his former position, this figure is understandable. In the first place, Negroes were relatively new in industry and thus had little seniority. Many Negroes, in fact most, were employed in industries which were not protected by unions. This lack of seniority and protection by unions added to the fact that Negroes are concentrated in the lower income brackets of the industrial hierarchy, made them the first and the most permanent sufferers from the depression. Likewise, it should be noted that it has been the observation of most of the employment service employees with whom I have talked that Negroes are being taken back into industry much less rapidly than are white workers. The result is that when the effects of the recovery are felt by other employees, Negroes are continuing to be unemployed, and their percentage or even their actual number on the relief and WPA rolls conceivably will increase without further migration.

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sons to fight an economic and social problem through focusing the antagonism of the community on a

LABOR - 1940
MIGRATORY MOVEMENT

U. S. GRANT TO MIGRANTS AMONG AID PLANS URGED

Age-Herald 8-17-40 Birmingham, Ala.

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Aug. 16—(AP)—A welter of suggestions, including expansion of the wage-hour and social security laws, were laid today before a special congressional committee seeking a solution to the plight of thousands driven off the soil by economic conditions and forced to seek a livelihood upon the road.

Practically every recommendation would involve federal legislation—increased relief grants, and share croppers for the purchase of farm machinery."

More modern migratory camps, such as FSA operates in Florida and California, were suggested by several to aid elimination of what some termed "sub-human" housing and sanitary facilities now available in many truck and fruit districts.

Dr. H. H. Chapman, director of the Bureau of Business Research at the University of Alabama, foresaw absorption of some of the South's "surplus population" in the "decided possibility" of the region's developing its scenic, climatic and recreational resources into major tourist attractions.

"Action of the federal government in cooperation with the states appears to be a fundamental need toward a policy of planned migration with respect to the Negroes as well as whites," the committee was told by Prof. Preston Valien, of Fisk University, Nashville, Tenn.

more modern migrant camps, subsidies, expansion of the National Youth Administration program and wider coverage by the Farm Security Administration.

The committee, headed by Representative Tolan (D., Calif.), closed its three-day hearing here to move on to Chicago, where it will begin a survey of the Midwestern picture Monday. Witnesses, both migrant and expert, were drawn here from throughout the Southeast.

Myron Falk, secretary of the Louisiana Council on Migrary Labor and Transients, suggested the wage-hour and social security expansions, after asserting that "in general, migrants, like residents, seek the same economic security and honest livelihood."

"The low income of the agricultural migrants," he said, "accounts for some of their difficulties. They should be included under the wage and hour bill and in the social security act, so that they can enjoy the benefits of unemployment compensation and old-age payments."

Establishment of "general assistance" payments under the social security act also was proposed by Falk, who said that all residence requirements should be waived for those otherwise eligible.

"A works program designed to protect and restore our land, water and forest resources might offer a means of utilizing the surplus farm labor in this region," said E. S. Morgan, regional director for the Farm Security Administration.

Morgan added it was his belief "the working out of a better system of tenure will in some measure offer a solution for the problem of migration," saying that experiences of the FSA "indicate the soundness" of written farm leases extending more than one year and "giving the tenants the same protection as most state laws give the landlords now."

In recommending the works program, the Southeastern FSA chief declared "there simply isn't enough good, productive land to go around and give every farmer (in the South) and economic unit."

Predicting widespread mechanization of cotton farming, beginning in the Southwest and spreading, Joseph S. Gelders, acting secretary of the Southern Conference for Human Welfare, proposed that "Congress provide funds to make loans to cooperatives of small owners, tenants

Migrant Workers Tell Sorry Story In Congress Probe

NEW YORK.—(CNA) — A moving story of human tragedy, extreme poverty and terrible persecution, almost unbelievable in Twentieth Century America, was unfolded in the Federal Court Building here this week as a special Congressional Committee, began probing conditions of thousands of Negro and white migratory workers.

Testimony at the hearings revealed a vivid picture of the nation-wide "Grapes of Wrath" problem which affects hundreds of thousands of families, continuously on the move, with no place that could be called home, looking for jobs.

"You either get out or starve—that is what makes people migrate," Florehn Irizari, 87-year-old Puerto Rican, told the committee as he related how he had been battered from pillar to post "just trying to make a living."

A former WPA worker, Irizari is one of thousands of victims whom the Woodrum Relief law has doomed to death by slow starvation.

"In 1929 they shut down the mine where I was", a sixty-year-old miner from Freeland Pennsylvania related. "I didn't get and steady employment all these years. I got no chance to go back to work in the mines, because the mines, they seem just about all worked out. My boys never had the chance to work at all, that's all."

An eighteen-year-old girl, Sadie Jones, "shocked" the committee when she told how she hitch-hiked through 46 states "looking for work." Emaciated and worn out she spoke so low that Representative Tolan, chairman of the committee, had to urge her constantly to speak louder.

Their stories, simple and unbelished, gave the human touch to testimony of scores of social students and social workers who appeared before the committee. Glen Leoki of the Rhode Island Department of Welfare stated that people migrate to get jobs, not relief, and that "no one state can solve this problem without Federal aid."

As the committee began to lift the lid over the frightful life of these people, New Jersey authorities announced plans to hound further several thousand Southern Negro migratory farm laborers employed on Central New Jersey potato farms, by ordering them fingerprinted and examined for social diseases.

Jim-crow health farm units have been set up, and at present 300 tests are made daily. Just what the fingerprinting presaged was made evident by an announcement that it would be of "value to employers and policemen."

Committee Plans Hearing On Migration of Destitute

Daily Tribune 8-13-40 Muscogee, Ga.

The special congressional committee investigating interstate migration of destitute citizens announced yesterday it had summoned more than 30 witnesses for a three day hearing to open Monday in the Federal building. The committee, directed by Representative John H. Tolan [D., Cal.] will come here from Montgomery, Ala. It is empowered to suggest legislation to remedy relief problems occasioned by mass migrations of the jobless.

Tenant Farm Ills

Age-Herald 8-13-40

The congressional committee studying tenant farm problems is now in Alabama seeking facts on the South's migratory crop workers, the cause and the effect of "Southern Oakies", and possible ways to remedy the evils.

The root of the problem, of course, is poor soil, coupled with other economic and human factors that are easier to detect than to cure. But the facts must be established before the tenant farmers and the migrant workers can be helped. Birmingham,

Certainly the congressmen who are conducting the hearing at Montgomery this week do not pretend to believe that legislation and legislation alone can effect a sure-cure for the South's tenant farm problems. But sane and sound legislation can be helpful. Ala.

The testimony offered at the Montgomery hearing should be not only interesting but extremely valuable.

Jacksonville, Fla., Times-Union
November 7, 1940

Camp Osceola, white migratory camp at Belle Glade, is full of residents. Many applicants are being turned away without getting accommodations. Camp Okeechobee, colored camp, is now rapidly filling up. The Moore Construction Company, St. Petersburg, which has the construction contract for Camp Everglades—the colored camp for Pahokee—is making progress on its undertaking. At least 50 cottages are under some form of construction, and the big recreational hall is about ready for the roof. All this camp work is of wood construction, which is said to be superior to steel which was used in the Belle Glade camps. The South Eastern Construction Company, Tuscaloosa, Ala., which has the white Pahokee camp, although getting a late start, is making good headway. Some 20 cottages are under construction, as well as the recreational hall. Two new heavy bridges over the canal have been constructed leading to this camp.—Palm Beach Sun.

Augusta, Ga. Herald
August 27, 1940

THE TIDE OF HUMANITY FLOWING BETWEEN TOWN AND COUNTRY

FOR many years the shift of population wa almost altogether in one direction, the humai tide flowing from the country into town and littl of it flowing back.

Nowadays it is flowing in both directions. Bu the unfortunate feature of this movement is tha few people move into the country without some plar of establishing and supporting themselves, whereas vast numbers flock into the cities without prospec of work or even a few dollars to maintain themselves while looking for a job.

It is a free country and a person free from disease is, in theory at least, privileged to move where he pleases. Yet in California officers of the law were placed at the state line and those who could show no means of support or definite assurance of a job were turned back. This also happened at the Florida line and cities may ultimately be forced to take a similar stand.

We have just read a pamphlet by Dr. Forrester B. Washington, director of the School of Social Work in Atlanta, who reports that at least 50 percent of the Negro families who are known to Atlanta social welfare agencies, both public and private, have come to Atlanta or Fulton County from rural areas within the last ten years or approximately during the depression years.

The editor of the **Herald** asked Mrs. Effie B. Harris of the Welfare Board here if this would also be a correct estimate as to Augusta and Richmond County and she replied that it would be just about correct in her opinion. She added, though, that this would apply to whites as well as to blacks and that their estimates were based upon a six-year period; that is, since federal relief has been set up.

The Welfare Board here will assist only those who can prove local residence of at least one year. To secure clinical service at the hospital residence of at least six months must be shown.

So far as movement from the cities to rural sections is concerned this consists almost entirely of people of small means who have arranged for federal assistance in advance of their departure from the city; or, of people who have jobs in the city; or, of city people who have independent means and desire to live in the country. This movement has been considerable, but it constitutes no problem. In fact, it is one of the hopeful signs of the times.

The pamphlet on relief work in Atlanta deals mainly with the Negro, although the whites are no doubt involved in almost equal proportion.

"The population of cities is growing—the people come in from the rural sections of the state to swell the number of persons the census reports," says this study of social welfare in Atlanta. "They are untrained to meet the simplest problems which confront them—hunting a job, spending money to the best advantage, escaping loan sharks, finding social and religious opportunities for self-expression. The rural migrant—white or Negro—pays heavily for his ignorance—and, so does the city."

There is a problem that we have given far too little study, either in Augusta or in Atlanta. Some day it will reach such proportions that it will demand a solution. Frankly, we do not have any answer right at hand.

Greensboro, N. C., News
October 16, 1940

NEGRO 'OKIES' MAKE PROBLEM IN CAPITAL

Negroes Fleeing Alleged Southern "Peonage" Add To Relief Burden.

Daily News Bureau and Telegraph Office
623 Albee Building (By Leased Wire)

WASHINGTON, Oct. 15.—Negro "okies" fleeing alleged southern "peonage" to fling themselves on the district constitute one of Washington's gravest problems, Mrs. Edna West Payton, of the Civic Association federation, told the district council of social agencies.

"Any morning," said Mrs. Payton, "you can see these pathetic migrants from the south trudging over highway bridges, their few possessions tied in bundles on a stick over their shoulders. They have no education; they get no employment when they reach Washington.

"Many of these rural negroes are stealing away from virtual peonage," she claimed. "They have been tenant farmers or share croppers. They come here because they regard Washington as mother of the nation.

"They look for help here, but they bring to us a serious problem. What it involves is shown in these figures: In one of our civil association districts this September there were 250 new children enroled in a school; of these 243 were from North or South Carolina, only seven from the district, Maryland or Virginia."

In an interview Mrs. Payton said that civil association studies led to the conclusion that it is the migratory worker who chiefly causes such major district problems as overcrowded housing, negro tuberculosis, malnutrition, etc.

"These unfortunate people," she said, "are primarily rural. They do not know how to urbanize themselves. It takes a long time for them to become accustomed to a city environment."

One method of attacking the problem, Mrs. Payton said, was to spread information among the southern negroes that they had few job opportunities in Washington. She added that dissemination of such information was difficult because the negroes who needed it were unlearned and not reached by such organizations as the Y. W. C. A. and Y. M. C. A.

Maj. Campbell Johnson, of the 12th street Y. M. C. A., who has long interested himself in the question, today said in an interview that an impartial commission should be set up to find not one but several solutions.

"It seems ridiculous," he said, "that when Washington is enjoying boom times, that the district should have such enormous and continuing relief burdens.

"If opportunities were given these rural migrants to re-establish themselves in nearby Maryland and Virginia on farms, there would be more applicants than opportunities."

Florida Authorities Attack Health Problem As 'Okies' Swarm Army Camp Seeking Work

Jobless Families Destitute, Others Still Lack Necessities.

NOV 19 1940

CAMP BLANDING, Fla., Nov. 18.—(AP)—Army, Red Cross, health and welfare officials today tackled the task of combating a serious problem which has mushroomed up here where the government is building a big training center for troops and thousands of migrants have swamped seeking jobs.

Constitution

More than 18,000 workmen are employed in the three eight-hour shifts which are being used to rush the $10,000,000, 119,000-acre Army camp into readiness for the first of 40,000 troops early next month.

Many of these workmen and their families, as well as hundreds of others who still hope to get jobs on the big project, are camping out in the piney woods and palmetto thickets across the "hard road" from the military reservation. They have come here from almost every state in the Union, traveling and living in true "Okie" fashion.

Atlanta

The families whose men haven't found work are destitute. Those with husbands, sons, fathers or brothers on the pay roll still lack proper clothing and shelter. Subfreezing weather for the past three nights has increased the suffering of the less fortunate. They all present a big health problem.

The State Board of Health today sent three doctors and three sanitary officers here from Jacksonville to begin inoculating the 18,000 men working on the reservation for the contractors handling the project.

Daily

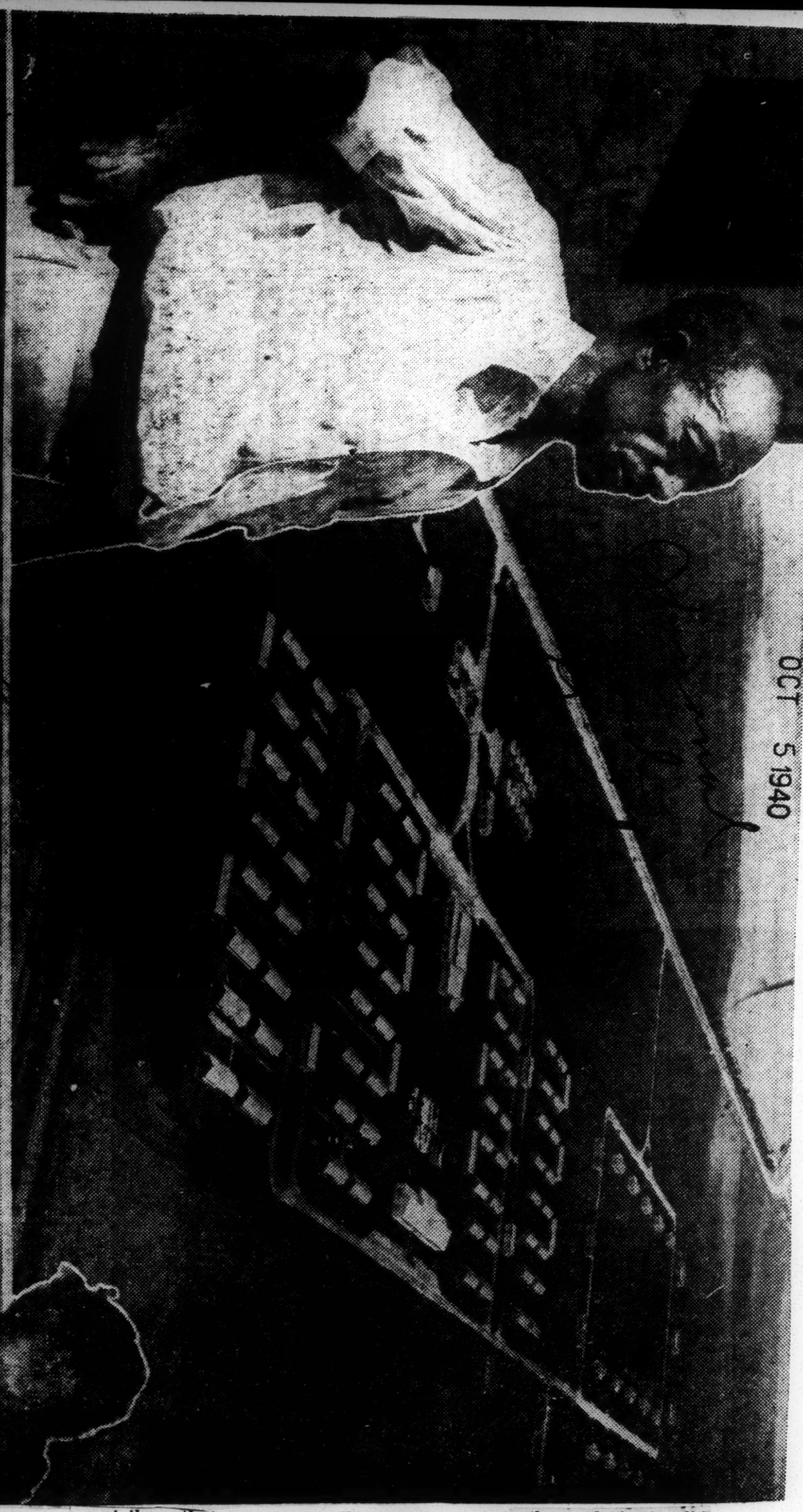
The Board of Health also staked off seven camp sites in which officers had approved water and sanitary facilities. An effort will be made to have all the migrants move into these areas.

Hundreds Camp in Piney Woods Near Military Reservation.

Reports that three Negroes and one white man "froze to death or died hungry" Friday night were investigated by health officers, but could not be confirmed, although dozens of the migratory folk in the scattered camps asserted the reports were true and some even insisted they had seen the dead men.

Representatives of the Army, the American Red Cross, the contractors, the State Board of Health, the State Welfare Board and the Travelers' Aid Society mapped further attacks on the problem at a conference here late today.

LABOR- 1940
MIGRATORY MOVEMENT



MIGRANT WORKERS in the Florida everglades, harvesters of the truck for which the area is famous, have found the Farm Security Administration Florida Migratory camps the nearest thing to "home sweet home" that some can imagine.

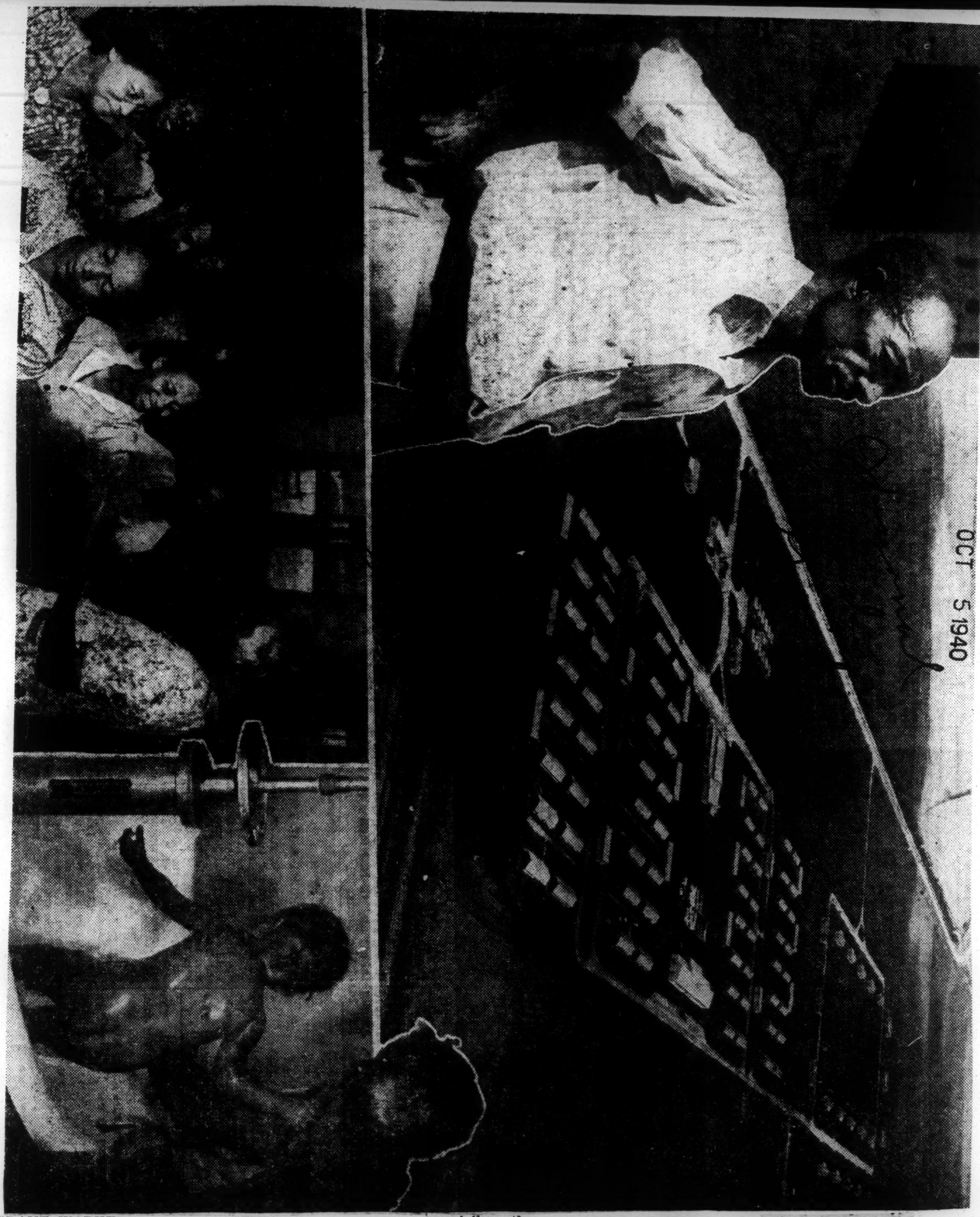
In the top photo, a worker who has probably picked cotton in Georgia, strawberries on the Eastern Shore, and potatoes in New Jersey, working along with the seasons—up and down the circuit, looks contentedly into the distance as he leaves the door of his quarters where, this year, he will have a home. A birds-eye view of one of the camps is shown at top right.

The group shown at bottom left is holding a meeting in one of the recreation rooms of the camp and being normally "neighborly." a privilege that the misery of putting up in jungles and shacks did not afford.

Mothers like the one shown at bottom right are reveling in the chance to keep children and household effects really clean after the long and painful experience of buying water by the bucketful. Sanitary water, sewage and drainage facilities are provided in the camp.

Security Administration Provides Home for Migrants

LABOR- 1940
MIGRATORY MOVEMENT



OCT 5 1940

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Security Administration Provides Home for Migrants

WILLKIE TOLD HOW TO HELP JOB MIGRANTS

OCT —6 1940

NEWARK, N. J., Oct. 3—Wendell L. Willkie, the Republican Presidential nominee, was invited to remain here in the East this week following his trip to California and other states in the West. The invitation was extended by Assistant Prosecutor J. Bernard Johnson, leader among the colored Democrats of this city and one of Mayor Hague's chief aides in the present campaign.

"The Republican nominee's trip to California should have never been made," said Johnson. "If he is anxious to help migratory workers, as reported in the daily press, let him stay right here within a 50 mile radius of his swank Park avenue apartment.

Knows More Than Admits

"He'll find Jersey Joads down in South Jersey, and exploited potato fields and domestic workers in Long Island. As a leader in American industry, Willkie knows more about conditions among colored people than he will admit. In Long Island, especially," Johnson went on, "where Willkie visits frequently with his wealthy friends, the Republican candidate must know that our women have been exploited in a manner far worse than the slavery of 75 years ago.

"They are often employed at a salary of $5 a week, out of which they pay room and board. On his trip to California, Willkie told the migratory workers out there that, if they would help to elect him, he would put 9,600,000 unemployed back to work. I wouldn't dare say that a candidate for the Presidency would willfully neglect to speak the truth, but I am saying that he sounds like a demagogue."

Johnson warned also that civic and fraternal leaders in Jersey, Pennsylvania and New York should keep in mind that President Roosevelt's administration made the only real step forward, "in our behalf," since the Emancipation Proclamation was signed.

NEGRO MIGRATION; ITS PROBLEMS AND CONTROL

New York Age

By HORACE R. CAYTON

(As presented to the Congressional Committee on Interstate Migration at its hearing conducted in Chicago, August 19—21)

At the outset the question might be posited, "Why does a population group migrate?" 9-7-40

A common sense answer to this question is that people move from places where they have fared badly to places where they will, or think they will, fare better. People hope to gain by migrating social improvement, economic advantage, religious freedom, or access to cultural resources. America has experienced much internal migration. There was the original migration which settled the West. Later there was the great rise of the cities which caused a distinct shift in the Nation's status from a predominantly rural to an urban people, a development so swift as to be without precedent in the history of the world. These movements of people have already been described by Professor Wirth.

I simply wish to point out at this time that migration of Negroes is just one aspect of population movements in the United States arising from the harnessing of steam, electricity, and the internal-combustion engine, which has made possible the settlement of the country and the development of great cities.

New York Age

The Westerly Trend

Fundamentally the migration of Negroes is similar to other population movements in the United States. One important difference, however, can be pointed out. Negro migration has been more extensively directed to the large cities and especially to the cities of the North, and, with the exception of the stream of people to California, the migration of Negroes has not followed the westerly trend which is evident in the general population. It should be kept in mind that the study of the movement among Negroes is just the observation of one segment of the general population which is being influenced by the social and economic forces which have been in flux since the beginning of the century. The migration of Negroes has been more conspicuous, easier to follow, to study, and become alarmed about, because they are easily recognized and because of the difculties which are often involved in their adjustment in cities.

New York Age

In order to comment intelligently on the interstate migration of Negroes (who might be destitute citizens) one must examine the question in the context of the entire history of Negro migration as well as the more general population shifts. The simple explanation of the present migration of Negroes in terms of coming North to get on the WPA ignores the forces which were set in motion during the mass migration and imputes to the illiterate Negro share cropper of the "deep south" knowledge of the involved laws of settlement and the labyrinth of state and municipal regulation surrounding the relief legislators which it would be impossible for him to have. In the following pages I will comment briefly upon the history of Negro migration up to the present time and some of the reasons for that movement.

New York Age

By tracing the center of Negro population through the various census enumerations one can gain a vivid picture of the migrations of that segment of the population. In 1790 the center of the Negro population of the United States was located near the southern boundary of the State of Virginia. Ninety years later it had moved southward and was in the northwestern corner of the state of Georgia. Thus it had traveled 163.1 miles farther south and 413.5 miles farther west and the total distance it had covered in a direct line was 445 miles, representing an average advance of 50 miles per decade. This followed the movement of the general population in the southern states.

Augusta, Ga. Herald

August 27, 1940

THE TIDE OF HUMANITY FLOWING BETWEEN TOWN AND COUNTRY

FOR many years the shift of population was almost altogether in one direction, the human tide flowing from the country into town and little of it flowing back.

Nowadays it is flowing in both directions. But the unfortunate feature of this movement is that few people move into the country without some plan of establishing and supporting themselves, whereas vast numbers flock into the cities without prospect of work or even a few dollars to maintain themselves while looking for a job.

It is a free country and a person free from disease is, in theory at least, privileged to move where he pleases. Yet in California officers of the law were placed at the state line and those who could show no means of support or definite assurance of a job were turned back. This also happened at the Florida line and cities may ultimately be forced to take a similar stand.

We have just read a pamphlet by Dr. Forrester B. Washington, director of the School of Social Work in Atlanta, who reports that at least 50 percent of the Negro families who are known to Atlanta social welfare agencies, both public and private, have come to Atlanta or Fulton County from rural areas within the last ten years or approximately during the depression years.

The editor of the **Herald** asked Mrs. Effie B. Harris of the Welfare Board here if this would also be a correct estimate as to Augusta and Richmond County and she replied that it would be just about correct in her opinion. She added, though, that this would apply to whites as well as to blacks and that their estimates were based upon a six-year period; that is, since federal relief has been set up.

The Welfare Board here will assist only those who can prove local residence of at least one year. To secure clinical service at the hospital residence of at least six months must be shown.

So far as movement from the cities to rural sections is concerned this consists almost entirely of people of small means who have arranged for federal assistance in advance of their departure from the city; or, of people who have jobs in the city; or, of city people who have independent means and desire to live in the country. This movement has been considerable, but it constitutes no problem. In fact, it is one of the hopeful signs of the times.

The pamphlet on relief work in Atlanta deals mainly with the Negro, although the whites are no doubt involved in almost equal proportion.

"The population of cities is growing—the people come in from the rural sections of the state to swell the number of persons the census reports," says this study of social welfare in Atlanta. "They are untrained to meet the simplest problems which confront them—hunting a job, spending money to the best advantage, escaping loan sharks, finding social and religious opportunities for self-expression. The rural migrant—white or Negro—pays heavily for his ignorance—and, so does the city."

There is a problem that we have given far too little study, either in Augusta or in Atlanta. Some day it will reach such proportions that it will demand a solution. Frankly, we do not have any answer right at hand.

Peonage Charged

MOBILE, Ala.—C. E. Bledsoe, Choctaw County farmer, Saturday was arrested by federal officers under a U. S. Grand Jury indictment on a charge of peonage. Arraigned before Commissioner E. C. Camp at Linden he was released on $1,500 bond.

Dist. Atty. Francis Inge claimed Bledsoe threatened and intimidated two Negro workers and forced them to remain on his farm, near Pennington, to work out a debt.

Inge declared fingerprint records show Bledsoe was once convicted in Texas for murder of his wife, but was later pardoned.

Alabamians Fined In Peonage Case

MOBILE, ALA., March 13.—(AP)—Two Alabama men—one a large land owner and the other a justice of the peace—were fined in U. S. District Court here today when they entered pleas of nolo contendere to charges of peonage in a three-year-old case.

Judge John McDuffie fined John Suttle, Perry County farm land operator, $250 and Emmett Plummer, Marion justice of the peace, $50.

Cases in which three others, Freeman and Pettus and Morgan Suttle, brothers of John, and E. C. Washburn, a deputy sheriff, had been indicted, were withdrawn on motion of District Attorney Francis H. Inge.

The indictments resulted from what the government charged was action by the five men to force a negro family to stay on the Suttle plantation against the negroes' will.

The government charged also that when the negroes fled the plantation the Suttles obtained a warrant charging them with obtaining money under false pretense and that the family returned rather than face arrest and prosecution.

It was charged in the indictments that the negroes owed the Suttles a debt and that the landowners refused to accept payment, forcing them to remain on the farm instead.

EX-TEXAS CONVICT 'PEONAGE PLANTER'

MOBILE, Ala., Feb. 29.—Arrest of C. E. Bledsoe, Choctaw county planter, on a U.S. grand jury indictment charging him with peonage for allegedly forcing two race men to work on his plantation, has been announced here by federal authorities who said Bledsoe had made bond pending his trial.

The indictment charges, it was stated, that Bledsoe had compelled the two men to stay on his plantation to work out a debt he claimed they owed him, forcing them to remain there and perform tasks he assigned them by continually intimidating and threatening them.

According to federal officials, Bledsoe's fingerprints reveal that he is a former Texas convict, pardoned while serving a prison sentence for the murder of his wife.

Birmingham Ala. Age-Herald
March 14, 1940

TWO CONVICTED ON PEONAGE CHARGES

MOBILE, Ala., March 13—(AP)—Two Alabama men—one a large land owner and the other a justice of the peace— were fined in U. S. District Court here Wednesday when they entered pleas of nolo contendere to charges of peonage in a three-year-old case.

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PLANTATION OWNER, JUSTICE OF PEACE ARE FINED BY JUDGE

Courier 3-23-40 Pathfinder, Washington

MOBILE, Ala., Mar. 21—(Special)—Entering pleas of nolo contendere to charges of peonage originally filed against them more than three years ago, John Suttle, owner and operator of extensive plantation holdings in Perry county, and Justice of the Peace Emmett Plummer of Marion were fined $250 and $50, respectively, at the conclusion of a hearing before Federal Judge John McDuffie, held here Thursday.

On motion of District Attorney F. H. Inge, indictments charging Morgan Suttle, Pettus Suttle, Freeman Suttle and Deputy Sheriff E. C. Washington with peonage were withdrawn. They were accused, with John Suttle and Plummer, of forcing members of a race family, again their will, to remain on one of the Suttle plantations, and on one occasion, when they sought to flee, it was alleged the accused forced them under threat of prosecution for obtaining money under false pretenses to return.

D. of J. Asked To Probe Negro Peonage in Fla.

Negro Congress Delegation Places Complaint Before Rogge

(Daily Worker Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 25.—Victims of Ku Klux Klan terror in Greenville, South Carolina, told their story today to Assistant Attorney General A. John Rogge.

James A. Brier, 69-year-old Negro teacher, and Mrs. Mildred Singleton, his niece, told of systematic Klan terror in South Carolina designed to prevent the Negro people from voting in 1940 elections.

Several distinguished Negro leaders, including Judge William L. Hastie, dean of Howard University Law School, John P. Davis, secretary of the National Negro Congress, Charles Houston, Howard University professor, J. Finley Wilson, head of the Negro Elks, and William L. Patterson, vice-president of the International Labor Defense, accompanied Brier and Mrs. Singleton.

An all-day talk with Rogge marked the second of a series of conferences with Department of Justice officials on the deprivation of Negro rights in the South. On Saturday two former peons on the Cunningham plantation in Georgia told their story to Department officials.

Following today's conference with Rogge, Negro Congress Secretary Davis made public the following three demands which had been presented to the Department.

1. A nation-wide investigation Carolina to intimidate the Negro people and keep them from exercising their constitutional right to vote."

I.L.D. Vice-President Patterson commented that **"organized pressure by the trade unions and by all progressive groups is the only method of insuring that the Department of Justice will carry on a genuine investigation of the deprivation of Negro rights in the South."**

He declared that **"these cases are of concern not only to the Negroes but are of vital interest to all progressives and trade unionists interested in bringing democracy to the South."**

Louis Colman, legislative representative of the I.L.D., accompanied the delegation of Negro leaders to

of the Ku Klux Klan by the Department. Davis said that an "investigation national in scope is the only way to prevent the Klan from carrying on its campaign intended to deprive the Negro people in the South of the right to vote."

2. Investigation of peonage in the South, and prosecution of William T. Cunningham of Oglethorpe County, Georgia, for keeping many Negro families on his plantation as peons in violation of federal law.

3. Investigation by the Department of the Greenville case of intimidation and terrorization of Brier, Mrs. Singleton and other Negroes by the Klan because they were organizing the Negro people to register as voters in the 1940 elections.

Davis said that Rogge has "authorized us to say that the government will take cognizance of the charges of peonage on the Cunningham plantation and of terror by the Ku Klux Klan in South

LABOR- 1940
PEONAGE

GENERAL

PEONAGE IN THE SOUTH

Slavery has been abolished by federal constitutional amendment, but that blood brother of the custom is still with us in the South. In the black belt of Alabama, the backwoods of Georgia, the fields of Mississippi and the bayous, hills and plains of Louisiana, Arkansas and Texas, peonage can still be found.

But it slowly is being rooted out by federal and state authorities as it is brought to attention.

At Mobile recently two Perry County men pled nolo contendre when they were brought before the bench on charges of peonage. Other charges are being made in the same case against other Perry County officials for allegedly having a part in the practice.

The story was that a Negro family had been forced to remain upon a farm when they wished to move to another place. Their landlord, it appears, had lent money to the Negro farmer, then refused payment of the loan, preferring to make the family work for him. The landlord, it further appears, had sworn out a warrant against the Negro when he did move from his tenant house, on charges of obtaining money under false pretenses.

When the law can be so operated that a peon master can hold his tenants in subjection in such a manner then something should be done about the minions of the law. Peonage must go, for every one within the bounds of this nation has been guaranteed freedom. Serfdom is of the past.

The reason that peonage can be continued, of course, is that the serfs are so thoroughly coerced by their masters they are afraid to take their complaint to the proper authorities. And in a few cases they know that the authorities will give them small attention.

Peonage is a vicious practice, and it must be exterminated. The tenant farming situation is bad enough without that.—Anniston Star.

PEONAGE EXPOSED BY CHICAGO AUTHOR IN NATIONAL MAGAZINE.

DR..L.K. WILLIAMS, NATIONAL BAPTIST CONVENTION HEAD ENDORSES FIGHT TO ABOLISH PEONAGE COMMITTEE.

CHIACGO- Second of two articles exposing peonage or debt slavery in Oglethorpe County, Georgia, appeared in the April 5 issue of Friday Magazine, published in New York.

The first of the series, based upon evidence of peonage, practices in Oglethorpe County, furnished by the Abolish Peonage Committee of the International Labor Defense to the Department of Justice, appeared in the March 29 issue of the magazine.

Author of the series is J. Norman Schmidt, young Chicago writer. Copies of the issues containing the expose may be obtained for 10 cents each from the Friday Magazine, 114 East 32nd Street, New York,N.Y.

Black Dispatch
4-20-40
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

LABOR 1940
PEONAGE

GENERAL

Peonage Victims Testify In D. C.

WASHINGTON—(SNS) — Ir Washington this week are victims of the Ku Klux Klan in South Carolina and two escaped Negro farm workers from a Georgia peonage farm who were held in bondage for more than ten years.

They were brought here by the National Negro Congress for the purpose of presenting their complaints to officials of the United States Department of Justice. An appointment for them is scheduled for sometime during the coming week with Assistant Attorney General O. John Rogge.

At a meeting held here Tuesday of this week, at which Congressman Vito Marcantonio, president of the International Labor Defense, presided, the witnesses who came to Washington told a tragic story of brutal terror and semi-slave conditions in South Carolina and Georgia.

One witness, Will Fleming, the father of ten children, told a horror-stricken audience of Washington citizens, that he had been chained in his cabin at night to prevent his escape from a peonage farm in Oglethorpe County, Georgia. He testified before the audience that he and his wife and his children had all been forced to work on the plantation during a period of some 25 years and that in that whole period the family earnings for any one year had never been more than $10.00.

A high point in the testimony before the audience was reached when a southern white woman told the story of how the Klan in South Carolina had left a disabled Negro war veteran naked on her front porch at night after he had been beaten by the Klan nearly to death.

Wm. Huff, Chicago Attorney, Charges Act To Georgian

Claims Trap Set for Him While He Investigated Peonage Charges in State

CHICAGO—(ANP)—William H. Huff, Chicago lawyer who recently successfully opposed the extradition of several innocent youths to police authorities of Oglethorpe County, Ga., this week revealed the alleged attempt of a white plantation owner, W. T. Cunningham, to entrap him last October while Huff was in Georgia investigating peonage charges against Cunningham.

As result of the attorney's disclosures of the treatment of Georgia sharecroppers and farm hands, an investigation was launched by the International Labor Defense and much of the resulting data was turned over to the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Georgia District Attorney.

The youths saved from extradition by the lawyer, were wanted in Oglethorpe County, on allegedly framed charges. They had worked on Cunningham's plantation and fled the peonage conditions there coming to Chicago. Efforts of the Georgia Authorites to snatch them back South aroused nation-wide attention. Last Wednesday, in a letter to Plantation Owner Cunningham of Lexington, Ga., Huff showed how near he came to falling into the Southerner's clutches. Huff's letter, in part, follows:

"I have just been informed by Mrs. Mattie Yancy and Mrs. Inez Fleming that you offered your alleged colored stool pigeon, Comer (Coot) Powers, five dollars to rush to Lexington from the Jeruel Baptist Association in session at New Hope Baptist church in the so-called Goosepond district of Point Peter, Ga., and bring you the message should I appear at that Association. This was the latter part of October, 1939. You were registered at the Harrison Hotel in Chicago from September 8-11, 1939, only a few short weeks before, and you had my address while you were here in Chicago. If you were all that anxious to see me, why didn't you come to my home? Were you a coward? Were you afraid I would do to you what you desired to do to me had you found me at that Association in Oglethorpe County, Georgia? Did you expect to have a "necktie party," a "tar and feather" picnic, a "lynching bee", a human flesh barbecue? I suspect that is what was in your mind—if you have a mind!

"In other words, you did not wish to see me in Chicago. You desired that I come to your bailiwick, where I would have been as defenseless as a Georgia rabbit in front of your dogs, and at your mercy, and the record shows that mercy is no part of you, in that I have a record of your brutalities that would reach from where I am to where you are. God have mercy on your soul—if you have a soul.

"You wanted me to come where you are said to rule with an iron hand—where Ben Hill was beaten with a wagon part until the skin fell across his nose; where Elmore Hill, his son, was shot in the groin because he came up to see what was happening to his father where Orrie Moon was beaten to insensibility; where Annie Bolton was beaten to insensibility thirty days before she gave birth to a child; where Cleveland Johnson was beaten almost to death while the brother of the man who was doing the beating, held a pistol on the poor defenseless Cleveland Johnson in order that he might not resist; where one Bodock Maddox is known to have shot down in cold blood two defenseless Negroes, one of them being Nathaniel Harris, brother to the late, very eminent colored physician, Dr. W. H. Harris of Athens, Georgia, where it is alleged that the sheriff did not think enough of either of the shootings by Bodock to place him under arrest.

"This is where you wanted to see the Negro lawyer who defeated our infamous attempt to return innocent men to your Oglethorpe County, Georgia 'justice.' I presume you still desire to see me there!"

FIRST LADY URGED TO JOIN PEONAGE FIGHT

Open Letter Cites Facts in Crusade

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt was urged this week to use her influence to end peonage in Oglethorpe County, Ga.

The appeal was made in an open letter to Mrs. Roosevelt from the Abolish Peonage Committee of the International Labor Defense and signed by Bob Wirtz, committee secretary.

Meanwhile, Assistant U. S. District Attorney John A. Looby, Jr., in Chicicago took under advisement a plea for prosecution of W. T. Cunningham, Oglethorpe county plantation owner, and his allies. The plea was presented last Thursday, January 4, by three committee spokesmen: Chief Counsel William Henry Huff, Assistant Counsel Harry B. Ritman, and Wirtz. The letter to Mrs. Roosevelt stated in part:

Presents Case Outline

"I have been instructed by the Abolish Peonage Committee of the International Labor Defense to lay before you an outline of the task we are about, and to solicit your support in our organized campaign to free Americans from the bonds of peonage. In addition to seeking legal prosecution under the anti-peonage statutes of the United States, we feel that, since peonage is widespread in the South—'America's Economic Problem No 1'—we must acquaint all America with the facts in the case.

"W. T. Cunningham, owner and operator of the Sandy Cross and three other peonage farms in Oglethorpe County, Ga., came to Chicago on Sept. 3, 1939, armed with governor's warrants, to recover three of his victims who had escaped from his farm, and accompanied by Deputy Sheriff John Paul and an attorney, Hamilton McWhorter.

Held Illegally

"Doc and Otis Woods and Solomon McCannon were arrested on these warrants. Ed Baines was arrested and held 'without process' until strong representations were made to local authorities. Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Smith were sought at a Chicago address that Cunningham had secured by threats from the Smiths' daughter, but were not apprehended since the daughter had given the wrong address.

"All six are Negroes who have recently escaped from the Cunningham peonage farm and have found refuge in Chicago along with more than a score of other refugees from the same farm.

Case Before District Attorney

"A complaint in behalf of more than a score of refugees is now being prepared by the legal staff to be laid before U. S. District Attorney T. Hoyt Davis at Americus, Ga. We are following this procedure at the behest of U. S. Attorney General O. John Rogge of the Department of Justice in Washington.

"In addition to that, private suits are being drawn up in behalf of the escaped workers demanding back wages, prosecution of opening the U. S. mails, assault and battery, larceny, and violation of the 13th, 14th, and 15th amendments. The committee is also making efforts to collect all data possible on peonage in America, turpentine camps, sharecropping, and chain gangs. And it will avail itself of every opportunity to build a really powerful campaign of the American people, exposing and combatting these hangovers from tyrannical feudalism.

"We ask your support, urging you to join in this drive to clean from America's face the blotch of this peonage in our southern states, that America may more nearly appropriate its declaration that all men are created equal and endowed with certain inalienable rights among which are the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. You could aid materially by helping us tell America about what is going on within [illegible] own shores today."

Chicago 'Peonage' Lawyer Reveals Attempt To Entrap Him In Georgia

CHICAGO, Jan. 5 (ANP)—William H. Huff, Chicago lawyer who recently successfully opposed the extradition of several innocent youths to police authorities of Oglethorpe County, Ga., this week revealed the alleged attempt of a white plantation owner, W. T. Cuningham to entrap him last October while Huff was in Georgia investigating peonage charges against Cunningham.

As result of the attorney's disclosures of the treatment of Georgia sharecroppers and farmhands, an international Labor Defense investigation was launched by the much of the resulting data was turned over to the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Georgia district attorney.

The youths saved from extradition by the lawyer, were wanted in Oglethorpe County, on allegedly framed charges. They had worked on Cuningham's plantation and fled the peonage conditions there, coming to Chicago. Efforts of the Georgia authorities to satch them back South aroused nation wide attention. Last Wednesday, in a letter to Plantation Owner Cuningham, of Lexington, Ga., Huff showed how near he came to falling into the Southerner's clutches. Huff's letter in part, follows:

"I have just been informed by Mrs. Mattie Yancy and Mrs. Inez Fleming that you offered your alleged colored stool pigeon, Comer (Coots' Powers, five dollars to rush to Lexington from the Joruel Baptist Association in session at New Hope Baptist church in the so called Goosepond district of Point Peter Georgia and bring you the message should I appear at that Association. This was the latter part of October 1939. You were registered at the Harrison Hotel in Chicago from September 8 to 11, 1939, only a few short weeks before, and you had my address while you were here in Chicago. If you were all that anxious to see me, why didn't you come to my home? Were you a coward? Were you afraid I would do to you what you desired to do to me had you found me at that Association in Oglethorpe County, Georgia? Did you expect to have a "necktie party" a "tar and feather" picnic, a "lynching bee," a human flesh barbecue? I suspect that is what was in your mind—if you have a mind!

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"This is where you wanted to see the Negro lawyer who defeated your infamous attempt to return innocent men to your Oglethorpe County, Georgia 'justice.' I presume you still desire to see me there."

Another Who Fled Is Found

Claims "Boss" Struck Her In Face with Fist

Mrs. Orrie Moon, of 412 Auburn Avenue, NE, told the WORLD Wednesday afternoon that she was one of the many persons who fled from a white plantation in Lexington, Oglethorpe County, Ga., where colored laborers were allegedly mistreated by W. T. Cunningham, owner of the farm.

William Henry Huff, Chicago attorney who has been conducting a private investigation of the alleged atrocities perpetrated upon colored plantation workers, is now urging federal authorities to bring action against Cunningham.

Mrs. Susie Gross, of 72 Hilliard Street, NE, in an interview Tuesday, said she witnessed several brutal affairs on the plantation. She said Cunningham struck her daughter and mistreated her sons and brother.

Mrs. Moon, who was a cook for the Cunningham family, said she fled the plantation in December of 1930 after Cunningham struck her in the face with his fist and pecked the flesh of her face with the point of a pocket knife.

She said she went to the plantation in 1916 where she married Will Moon. She was a sharecropper two years and then began cooking or the Cunninghams.

She said she never received any money except at Christmas time when Cunningham gave his hands a few dollars. He would give them small change throughout the year, she stated.

Mrs. Moon told the WORLD that Cunningham intercepted a letter which she mailed at a post office near the plantation and later showed it to her. She said the letter was addressed to her mother.

Cunningham kept a hickory stick on his porch and used it when beating his colored workers, the woman declared.

She said she saw Cunningham beat several persons and on many occasions begged him to stop beating her husband.

Attorney Huff said a large number of the people alleged to have been mistreated by Cunningham is now living in Chicago, Atlanta, Baltimore and Cincinnati.

The attorney already has forwarded written testimony of the former Cunningham plantation laborers to federal authorities here in Atlanta

Attorney General Is Asked To Hold Peonage Hearing

U. S. Attorney General Robert H. Jackson was asked this week to hold a public hearing on peonage conditions in Oglethorpe county, Ga., by John Davis Jr., executive secretary of the National Negro Congress.

Davis proposed that refugees from Oglethorpe county now living in Chicago, Cincinnati and Baltimore be invited to present their actual experiences, while being held in debt slavery, at the hearing.

Whether or not Jackson grants this request, the sensational facts regarding peonage will be presented at a huge mass meeting in Washington, March 19, called jointly by the National Negro Congress, the Council to Aid Agricultural Workers, the Washington League for Democratic Action, and the International Labor Defense.

Speakers from the Abolish Peonage Committee in Chicago and Will Fleming, Oglethorpe County refugee, will speak at the mass meeting.

Labor leaders, congressmen, Department of Agriculture officials are all reported to be urging Jackson to take immediate action against W. T. Cunningham and other Oglethorpe County peonage barons.

G-Men Will Investigate Ga. Peonage

Chicago, Ill.

In a sweeping triumph for public opinion, the Department of Justice this week had reversed its original decision to ignore peonage in Oglethorpe county, Ga., and was investigating charges of widespread debt slavery in the county brought by the Abolish Peonage Committee of the International Labor Defense.

This information was contained in a letter made public by the committee from O. John Rogge, assistant attorney general in charge of the civil liberties division of the Department of Justice in Washington to Bob Wirtz, committee secretary in Chicago.

Meanwhile, two committee representatives—Chief Counsel William Henry Huff and William L. Patterson—with two Oglethorpe county refugees now living in Chicago, Will Fleming and Doc Woods, were to discuss the peonage charges with Rogge in Washington at the end of this week.

Implicated in the charges are W. T. Cunningham, head of the Oglethorps county peonage ring; his attorney, Hamilton McWhorter, of Lexington, Ga.; Oglethorpe county deputy sheriff John Paul; and Deputy Sheriff Patrick Keenan of Chicago.

Editor Aids Peon Escape Plantation

Dramatic Rescue Is Made as Armed Guard Watches

MARLOW, Ga.—How he allegedly has been held in peonage on a turpentine plantation owned by D. B. Warnell, a State Senator, for eleven years and threatened with a clinch on the chain gang if he left, was told to a Federal district attorney this week by Leroy Linzy.

Linzy was taken to the officials by Davis Lee, publisher of the Savannah Journal, who rescued him from his home at the turpentine still here while an armed foreman stood in front of the house to block escape.

On Thursday of last week, Linzy escaped through the assistance of a white friend, who took him to Savannah. He was then directed to the publisher of The Journal, who immediately got in touch with FBI officials.

Returned for Family

Fearing that his family would be beaten and abused, Linzy left Savannah late Saturday night and slipped into Marlow, about 26 miles north of Savannah, to get his wife and child. However, daylight caught him before they could get away.

Learning that he had gone out of the city, Mr. Lee drove to Marlow, Sunday morning, to find Linzy in the house with a loaded shot gun waiting for the stocky foreman (who had learned through the "grapevine" from other colored help that he was in the house) to come in.

The foreman allegedly had told the other workers that he intended to whip Linzy for going off.

Baffle Guard

The publisher opened the door of his car and Linzy's dash for freedom was made so quickly that they were in the highway and headed for Savannah before Weathers, the foreman, realized what had happened.

Linzy's statement follows:

"I went to work for the owner eleven years ago. Some time after going there my wife was brought to Charity Hospital here in Savannah and operated on for a tumor. The bill was $37.59. I have paid the bill to the owner at least three times and every time I get ready to leave he tells me that I can't leave because I owe him that hospital bill which he says he paid.

A check at Charity Hospital disclosed that the bill has not been paid by the plantation owner.

"This last time I paid the bill down to $18, and I got another job with another man at Bellsville, who offered to pay the eighteen dollars—he refused to let me leave unless I paid him $200.

"Not long ago one of the foremen on the plantation struck me and knocked me down, breaking two of my teeth out. When I told the boss about it, he just laughed. Three of the foremen carry pistols to make us work.

"There is only one way that a Negro can get away and that is by running away at night. Several have run away.

Paid $1 a Day

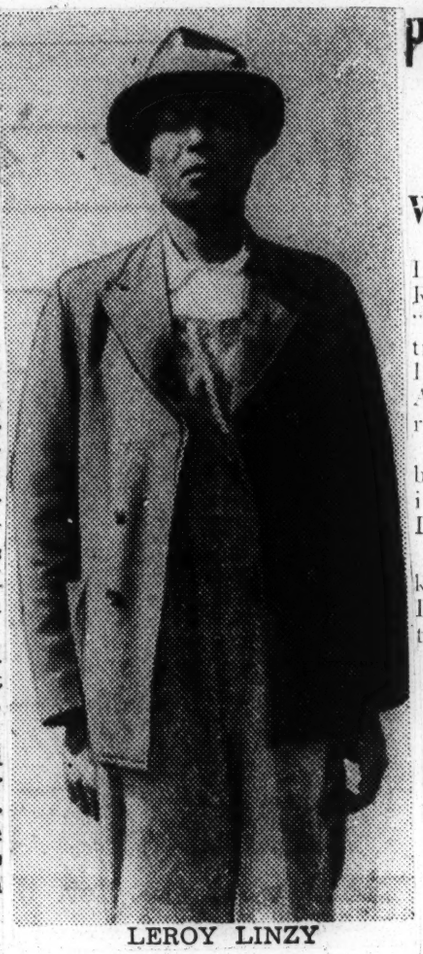
"We are paid $1 a day and have to buy our rations from the commissary and pay three times what it is worth."

Mr. Warnell and his son, who is in charge of his father's operations, have three large turpentine stills and employ around 75 workers.

Any number of these workers expressed a desire to leave but are afraid that they will be placed on the chain gang. It is claimed that several did attempt to leave and were arrested and put on the chain gang.

Get Warrants

According to one of the FBI officials, who discussed the prevalence of peonage in Georgia,



LEROY LINZY

when a worker attempts to leave employer claims that the worker owes him and has a warrant issued for cheating and swindling.

The worker is arrested and sentenced to the chain gang. The employer then goes to the worker and tells him that if he will come back and stick, that he (the employer) will pay his fine.

If the prisoner consents to this, which is nearly always done, the employer gives the sheriff $10 or $15 which he sticks in his pocket, and the prisoner is released.

He is never able to get out of debt. If he attempts to leave again, he is reminded of his last experience and he stays and puts up with the conditions.

POOR PEOPLE OF BOTH RACES IN SOUTH ARE TREATED LIKE SLAVES

White Textile Workers Tell of Cruelty Practiced on Them and Negroes by Landlords

LEXINGTON, Ga., May 2—(By Rev. Donald L. West for ANP)—"Poor people in the South been treated like slaves, they're afraid." He was a white textile worker from Atlanta. I'd picked him up on the road to Oglethorpe county.

"Do you know anything about big farmers holding their tenants in peonage in Oglethorpe county?" I asked.

"That's not the only place. I know of it being done right where I was raised. It's done everywhere through the lower part of the state. I got away to get a job in the cotton mills. They try to make slaves out of us there. The Ku Klux Klan been fighting our union. They put out leaflets threatening us. And they've beat up some.

It was time for him to get out. I took his name and address and drove on. A little further I picked up a young man, a high school graduate of Winterville, Ga. He had a job in Atlanta and was going home on a visit. I always pick up hitch-hikers, perhaps from a selfish motive. They always teach me something. This lad said he was reared in Oglethorpe county. He knew the Cunninghams and other big landlords.

"I'm not surprised at anything happening there," he said. "It sure is a rotten place. They have a county ring. Ed Watkins been sheriff for 35 years. heT commissioner, Smith, bullies people into voting for him, those that can vote."

"What about the preachers of the county," I asked, "Do they never speak against these evils?"

"Preachers!" The boy grinned. "Well, they get their money from the ring. They won't bite the hand that feeds them."

I asked him his name. He told me, but begged that I not use it in anything I wrote about Oglethorpe county. Although he is white, his family lives outside Oglethorpe in an adjoining county and he works in Atlanta, he had a mortal dread of letting it be known that he had "talked" even the little about the masters of Oglethorpe county. This dread and fear is something I've found to be universal down here among both the colored and whites. Everyone knows about it but no one dares speak.

Near the town of Lexington, county seat of Oglethorpe, I picked up a couple of white boys. They of E. O. Cabinet, the county agent, told me they worked on the farm He is one of the ring that runs the county, an office-holder and farmer in his own right. These boys said they got 60c a day and Negroes were supposed to get 50c.

"How does Cabinet treat his workers?" I inquired.

"He works us all hard, but if a nigger don't suit him he beats him up. He'd ruther work niggers than whites, 'cause he can kick them around, and they won't do nothing. Niggers won't leave 'cause they afraid to."

A bent old white man and woman were walking the highway outside Lexington. Desiring to talk with as many local whites as possible, I asked them to ride and drove them out to the little tenant shack where they lived.

These two, I thought, are good sample products of the southern tenant system. They were mountain people who had several years ago moved to the cotton country. Gouging back into the past of our families, we found that we were "kins-folk," both our families coming from the mountain regions of North Carolina. Old, warped and bent—lives lived and worn out at grinding toil. To be thankful for, they have the little tenant shack with a roof and walls that hardly keep the cold winds and rains out. "I'm gonna quit farming," the old man said, "if I kin git a home to live in." He referred to some sort of welfare home.

"We work hard but we don't git nothing," the old woman said. "I dreamed about heaven the other night. Hit shore is the purtiest place! Things are powerful clean there. They shore is. I'm telling you, hit's the purtiest place I ever seed!"

And looking around the barren shack, one can understand the longing for something "purty", less along the highways of Oglethorpe county. The traveler is asked such vital questions as "R U Saved or R U lost?" He is urged to "Beware lest ye die in your sins," or "All things were made by Him and for Him." If one wonders why such scriptures as "Woe unto you rich for you have received your reward," or "Go to now, you rich, weep and howl for your sins and the miseries that shall come upon you", are strikingly absent from all roadside scripture advertisements, perhaps it can be explained by the type of masters these Georgia counties have.

EDITOR AIDS PEON FLEE GEORGIA PLANTATION

Editor Aids Peon Escape Plantation

MARLOW, Ga.—How he allegedly has been held in peonage on a turpentine plantation for eleven years and threatened with a stretch on the chain gang if he left, was told to a Federal district attorney this week by Leroy Linzy.

Linzy was taken to the officials by DavisLee, publisher of the Savannah Journal, who rescued him from his home at the turpentine still here while six armed foreman stood in front of the house to block escape.

On Thursday of last week, Linzy escaped through the assistance of a white friend, who took him to Savannah. He was then directed to the publisher of The Journal, who immeditely got in touch with FBI officials.

Returned for Family

Fearing that his family would be beaten and abused, Linzy left Savannah late Saturday night and slipped into Marlow, about 26 miles norht of Savannah, to get his wife and child. However daylight caught him before they could get away.

Learning that he had gone out of the city, Mr. Lee drove to Marlow, Sunday morning, to find Linzy in the house with a loaded shot gun waiting for the stocky foreman (who had learned through the "grapevine" from other colored help that he was in the house) to come in.

The foreman allegedly had told the other workers that he intended to whip Linzy for going off.

The publisher opened the door of his car and Linzy's dash for freedom was made so quickly that they were on the highway and headed for Savannah before the foreman realized what had happened.

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SMUGGLED LETTERS TELL OF SLAVERY ON GEORGIA FARMS; GRIM STORY OF SUFFERING

CHICAGO.— Simple but dramatic letters slipped out of Oglethorpe County, Ga., to the office of the Abolish Peonage Committee of the International Labor Defense in Chicago, tell the moving story of the suffering endured by thousands on the county's peonage farms.

"These letters constitute a cry to America for justice," declared Alderman Benjamin A. Grant, chairman of the committee. "Not every man or woman who writes us asking us to come down in the South and help them, thousands more suffer in silence.

On a sheet of loose leaf school paper, Mrs. Orrie Moon, now living in Atlanta, wrote.

"I was not born in slavery time; but when I was a girl of three or four I heard Aunt Sally Tate talk about it. I couldn't believe these tales until I went to live on W. T. Cunningham's plantation down in Oglethorpe County.

"I know what Cunningham's heavy old strap feels like, as did many more of the Lord's children down there in bondage. Cunningham never gave us any pay for our work; now when payday comes, I feel like a child with a Christmas toy."

"I don't care whether the folks up there in Chicago fighting for us are white or colored. I only ask that they do."

Letter Held Up

Grover White, one of Cunningham's former serfs now living in Woodville, Ga., experiences one of the common troubles of poor Southerners who stand up for their rights. He claims that his mail is held up by the postoffice, but that doesn't keep him from condemning the tortures visited by Cunningham upon his serfs.

"This comes to answer your letter of December 28," White wrote to Committee Chief Counsel William Henry Huff on January 6. "Of course, it was delayed at the postoffice.

"I lived on Mr. Cunningham's Sandy Cross plantation in 1938. Me and my family left after five months and asked for a settlement which they failed to give us.

"Cunningham and his friends overtook me and my father-in-law, held us at the point of a pistol and whipped us with a buggy-trace. The sheriff has turned us over to him so they could whip us like dogs.

"Cunningham whipped my father-in-law with a pistol in one hand and did the lashing with the other and while forcing him to lie across a bag of cane. Many others were whipped like us."

The Abolish Peonage Committee is preparing to publish a pamphlet on the situation in Oglethorpe county, reproducing these and other letters.

BARBERS PETITION FOR LAW'S DEATH

City Council Receive Reques Signed With Names Of 6 Local Workers

Sixty-one licensed barbers appeale to city council last night for aboli tion of the city barber board set up in an ordinance passed Jan. 23.

The appeal, embodied in a petition that did not advance reasons for the opposition, was referred to the committee on ordinances and resolutions. Still in the hands of this committee last night was a price and hour scale submitted by the barber board last week.

Alderman Harry Stewart, chairman of the committee, was absent.

The 61 signatures represented both Negro and white barbers, and some names were duplicated on a previous petition bearing the board. There are approximately 100 licensed barbers in Macon.

The board, composed of three barbers and empowered to enforce minimum price and maximum hours regulations, was authorized by council after hot debate among the barbers. Advocates of the measure claimed it was designed to promote healthful conditions and the general welfare, while opponents, including many Negroes, said the board could easily become a weapon for suppressing minority groups.

Paving Plans Approved

The question of constitutionality has also been raised.

Meeting as a committee of the whole after the regular session, the aldermen discussed with Watson Walker, city engineer, the city's 1940 paving program, authorizing Mr. Walker to proceed as rapidly as possible

The engineer pointed out that a new agreement with the federal government made possible an even greater saving to the city and property owners than was possible last year. He urged that residents on streets now unpaved submit their petitions immediately in order to take advantage of the government help.

The average assessment per front foot will be from 25 to 25 cents less than in 1939's program he said.

The council instructed Mr. Walker to start paving first on streets where property owners have already signed petitions.

Jacobs Death Deplored

Only routine business was transacted in the regular session. At the request of the board of tax assessors, hours of the office were set at 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 2:30 to 5 p.m. daily, and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m on Saturday.

A resolution deploring the death of E. G. Jacobs, Macon druggist, was passed unanimously and spread on the minutes. The resolution called Mr. Jacobs "an outstanding business man, a loyal friend, a good citizen, a devoted husband, a loving father, and a Christian gentleman."

By its own terms, it will be recorded on a page in the city records to be dedicated to his memory. A copy will be sent to the family.

Protesting Barber-Shop Control

It was a pleasure to publish in the letter column of Tuesday's Telegraph a communication from Herbert's Sanitary Barber Shop, protesting in temperate but emphatic terms against the recent action of council in setting up a local board of control to fix minimum prices and maximum hours in the barber shops of this city.

Our correspondent points out that for five years a group of Macon barber shops had been charging 10 cents for a shave and 20 cents for a hair cut. In November of last year these shops agreed to increase the price to 15 cents for a shave and 25 cents for a hair cut.

We infer from our correspondent that this increase did not boost the actual revenue and it is within our own knowledge that in at least one shop the increased rate had an adverse effect. The shop lost customers and under the operation of the law of diminishing returns, the income at the higher rate was actually smaller than at the lower rate.

And yet within three months after these shops yielded to the request for an increased rate they were confronted with the demand for a further increase under the control plan which has since been put into effect, in spite of vigorous protests from many master barbers and their employes.

Opposition to this barber-shop control is manifesting itself in various quarters, for the simple reason that it has not worked well. The whole theory of price-control is paternalistic and is either mischievous or futile in its final result.

In Atlanta Judge Humphries, of the Fulton superior court, has just granted a temporary injunction against the enforcement of a control plan similar to that in Macon, which has been in operation there since last August.

The petitioner in this case saw fit to reduce the price for a hair cut to 25 cents, whereupon proceedings were immediately taken against him.

The only theory on which this regulation of barber-shop service by a local board is predicated is that it is in the interest of sanitation. But nobody behind this movement believes that this is the true reason.

As a matter of fact, in the Atlanta case the board of control does not even allege that the defendant barber keeps an unsanitary shop. It would be stupid to make the charge because he holds a health certificate from the state board of barber examiners. The same is true of every barber shop in Macon which is allowed to do business.

In the Atlanta case it is contended that the control ordinance is unconstitutional, because the city has no power to enact price-fixing regulations and also because the law creating the state board of barber examiners, covering the sanitary aspects, is a general law, and no special law covering the same subject is valid.

It is understood that the Macon ordinance will also be challenged on the ground that it is unconstitutional and it is hoped that either in the Macon or the Atlanta case a decision may be handed down soon.

The general public is fed up on boards and bureaus and commissions and administrative agencies of various kinds which undertake to regulate every activity of life and attacks are being made upon them all along the line.

The effort to control barber-shop service, except to the extent of enforcing honest measures of sanitation, is destined to failure for the very excellent reason that all the laws in the world cannot compel a man to patronize a barber shop. It is one of the easiest things in the world for him to begin shaving himself and he can at least postpone the other barber-shop services.

The pity of it is that when once a barber has lost a customer, because one of these paternal boards of control has assumed to run his business, the customer may never be won back again. Even when the controls are abolished or relaxed he may go on shaving himself, as thousands do by preference.

It was exceedingly unfortunate that council ever adopted this mischievous invasion of private rights. The wise thing to do would be to repeal it before the shops serving customers in the lower income brackets are driven out of business.

At all events, a supreme court decision should be sought at the earliest possible moment.

Prospective Census Takers Urged To List Names With League

A local committee composed of substantial citizens is working in the interest of the employment of Negroes in the task of taking the 1940 Decennial Census. But in order to make the proper approach in this matter it is necessary for the committee to know the persons who have already filed applications in the office of the district supervisor; and also persons who expect to file such applications.

For the convenience of such persons and the members of the committee, the Atlanta Urban League has been selected as a central place for registration. The League office is located on the third floor of the Odd Fellows Building Room 305, 250 Auburn Avenue. The committee is anxious for persons who have already filed their applications to list names and addresses on the registration list at the League office. This cooperation will help the committee to help the applicants. Others who make application at the office of the district supervisor should also leave their names and addresses at the League office.

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The Business Census started January 2 and will be completed in about three months. It is too late to make application for jobs in connection with this census. But in April the Census of Population, Agriculture and Housing Conditions will be taken. This is the work for which applications should be made.

Peonage Fight Receives Support Of N.A.A.C.P. And National Congress

WASHINGTON, March 8—Two great organizations—the National Negro Congress and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People—this week expressed their support of the fight waged by the Abolish Peonage committee of the International Labor Defense to end wholesale debt slavery in Oglethorpe county, Ga.

Three committee representatives—Chief Counsel William Henry Huff, Secretary Bob Wirtz, and Will Fleming, Oglethorpe county refugee will go from Chicago to Washington on Tuesday, March 19 to lay the facts regarding the Oglethorpe county peonage ring before U. S. Attorney General Robert H. Jackson.

On the evening of the same day, they will be the principal speakers at a giant mass meeting called by the National Negro Congress to demand that the Department of Justice end its delay in proceeding against William T. Cunningham and other Oglethorpe county debt slavers.

The mass meeting will be preceded by a banquet and is preliminary to the national conference of the congress to be held in Washington on April 9, at which peonage will be one of the vital issues discussed.

President of the National Negro Congress is A. Philip Randolph, international president of the A.F.L. Light of the world," Bishop Taylor waded through the throng of curiosity seekers.

Mr. Mossell arrived shortly after the principals, stating to inquirers that he "simply wanted to help the bishop." When asked the name of his attorneys, Bishop Taylor answered, "Jesus."

Since his arrest, special prayers of forgiveness for his accusers have been broadcast by the bishop in his regular weekly radio program.

[illegible] sworn affidavits in its possession [illegible] months and put this ring of [illegible] debt slavers in the penitentiary [illegible] where they belong."

The N.A.A.C.P. wrote to William [illegible] Patterson, I.L.D. national vice [illegible] president, on February 28 expressing its approval of the campaign and suggesting that it be broadened to include the whole south.

Peonage In Georgia and Klan In South Carolina Ignored By Agents of Government

Greenville Citizens Tell Of Terrorism When Blacks Sought To Qualify For 1940 Election

Threatening Letters Sent Thru Mail

By A. E. WHITE

WASHINGTON.—(ANP)—Continual activities on the part of the Ku Klux Klan in South Carolina, where in the city of Greenville and its adjacent territory Negroes have been threatened, intimidated and in some instances severely beaten, arise at a time when people high in the political picture of the United States are slapping each other on the back and praising the democracy which permits unlimited opportunities and freedom, casting an ever lengthening shadow over the political stature of state officials and their associates representing them in the capitol.

Calling the attention of the entire country and especially the department of justice, which in the past has refused to take an active part in investigations demanded the National Negro Congress and the International Labor Defense have brought to Washington several persons from Georgia who are charging peonage against plantation owners and several from Greenville who have been mistreated by hooded mobs, in an endeavor to have their cases placed right squarely in the laps of the department of justice.

During his tenure of office as attorney general, it is alleged that the present supreme court judge, Frank Murphy, refused to investigate activities of the Klan in South Carolina, waving aside the material submitted him in direct proof of the nefarious activities of the Klan.

Those who live in the state feel that the entire elected official body from Senator "Cotton" Ed Smith on down, are more allied with the Klan or in sympathy with its ulterior motives. It is reliably reported that Ed Smith bases his pre-election speeches on white supremacy and incites racial antagonism throughout the entire state while campaigning.

However, in the office of the National Negro Congress here last week, Professor J. A. Brier, a retired school teacher of Greenville and his niece, Mrs. Mildred Singleton, told harrowing stories of the activities of the Klan, despite official denial of such acts by governors, senators and department of justice officials.

All of the trouble started when Prof. Brier attempted to arouse in the Negroes a desire to take part in the primary elections and in the general elections of 1940, when he started a county-wide movement to have Negroes register.

So alarmed did the whites become, the Klan suddenly aroused itself into action and began wholesale terrorism among Negroes of the community.

Then police took part and began wholesale arrests of young Negroes in the town, locking them up on the slightest provocation.

Two interesting cases were related in which young Negroes were arrested and charged with high crimes, when they were not guilty of any crimes. In one instance, the youth was sentenced to 15 years on the chain gang and subsequently died three weeks after being taken there.

When an undertaker was called to claim the body for burial, although the deceased man's wife and a friend pointed out to this colored mortician the fact that there were welts and scars on the corpse's back as a result of beatings, the undertaker claimed he could see no such marks.

Growing out of a desire to serve a customer who came into the barber shop where he worked this young man took a note next door to a waitress who it is alleged had been conducting a rather loose life on the side. Immediately the Negro was arrested and charged with attempting to ravish the woman and writing her notes. Evidence was introduced to show that the Negro could neither read nor write. This did not prevent his conviction, sentence and subsequent death at the hands of persons unknown.

But Professor Brier himself was marked as the man who had to be stopped. Without warning, the hooded mob descended simultaneously upon Brier's home, his crippled brother's home and his niece's home on the night of Nov 15, in an effort to locate the man who was behind all this uprising on the part of the Negroes.

Breaking through three rooms and finally into the bedroom where they thought they would find Brier, the Klansmen pillaged the room and then went about their business, the whole group assembling at the home of Brier's niece, Mrs. Singleton.

Mrs. Singleton sought police protection and appealed directly to the mayor of the town, but she was not harmed, although the Klansmen searched her home and terrorized her two young children.

Unbelievable are the stories they tell of the terrorism rampant in the town, which formerly was one of the best in South Carolina for Negroes. With a population of some 35,000 persons, 10,000 of whom are Negroes, Greenville had formerly enjoyed a healthy reputation.

Now the picture is all changed and Negroes live a most miserable existence, despite the fact that postal authorities have been advised of violation of postal laws by Klansmen who send through the mails threatening letters to Negroes, and the department of justice refusal to consider the case.

Letters have been sent to Postmaster General Farley and to the department of justice in the matter, but to date, nothing has been done although promises of action have been made.

Defending Negroes against in[illegible] a perfunctory in[illegible] made.

[illegible] in a statement to [illegible] tols all are a part of the program [illegible] dants said he had [illegible] of the Klan, both of which are in [illegible] whether members [illegible] direct violation of city and state [illegible] department were [illegible] laws, though nothing has been [illegible] e Klan or not, al[illegible] done in it.

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Mr. Talbert has suffered many indignities at the hands of his fellow townsmen because of his actions, but he continued to ren[illegible] their marauding night rides in the Negro districts. Not until a white man was flogged did the gover[illegible] nor take any stand against it, though [illegible] to do their duty when [illegible] raided Negro homes

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Three committee representatives—Chief Counsel William Henry Huff, Secretary Bob Wirtz, and Will Fleming, Oglethorpe county refugee will go from Chicago to Washington on Tuesday, March 19 to lay the facts regarding the Oglethorpe county peonage ring before U. S. Attorney General Robert H. Jackson.

On the evening of the same day, they will be the principal speakers at a giant mass meeting called by the National Negro Congress to demand that the Department of Justice end its delay in proceeding against William T. Cunningham and other Oglethorpe county debt slavers.

The mass meeting will be preceded by a banquet and is preliminary to the national conference of the congress to be held in Washington on April 9, at which peonage will be one of the vital issues discussed.

President of the National Negro Congress is A. Philip Randolph, international president of the A.F.L. Light of the world," Bishop Taylor waded through the throng of curiosity seekers.

Mr. Mossell arrived shortly after the principals, stating to inquirers that he "simply wanted to help the bishop." When asked the name of his attorneys, Bishop Taylor answered, "Jesus."

Since his arrest, special prayers of forgiveness for his accusers have been broadcast by the bishop in his regular weekly radio program. "I
orn affidavits in its possession
r months and put this ring of
bt slavers in the penitentiary
here they belong."

The N.A.A.C.P. wrote to William Patterson, I.L.D. national vice esident, on February 28 express- g its approval of the campaign d suggesting that it be broadened include the whole south.

Peonage In Georgia and Klan In South Carolina Ignored By Agents of Government

Greenville Citizens Tell Of Terrorism When Blacks Sought To Qualify For 1940 Election

Threatening Letters Sent Thru Mail

By A. E. WHITE

WASHINGTON.—(ANP)—Continual activities on the part of the Ku Klux Klan in South Carolina, where in the city of Greenville and its adjacent territory Negroes have been threatened, intimidated and in some instances severely beaten arise at a time when people high in the political picture of the United States are slapping each other on the back and praising the democracy which permits unlimited opportunities and freedom, casting an ever lengthening shadow over the political stature of state officials and their associates representing them in the capitol.

Calling the attention of the entire country and especially the department of justice which in the past has refused to take an active part in investigations demanded the National Negro Congress and the International Labor Defense have brought to Washington several persons from Georgia who are charging peonage against plantation owners and several from Greenville who have been mistreated by hooded mobs, in an endeavor to have their cases placed right squarely in the laps of the department of justice.

During his tenure of office as attorney general, it is alleged that the present supreme court judge, Frank Murphy, refused to investigate activities of the Klan in South Carolina, waving aside the material submitted him in direct proof of the nefarious activities of the Klan.

Those who live in the state feel that the entire elected official body from Senator "Cotton" Ed Smith on down, are more allied with the Klan or in sympathy with its ulterior motives. It is reliably reported that Ed Smith bases his pre-election speeches on white supremacy and incites ra-

colored mortician the fact tha there were welts and scars on the corpse's back as a result of beatings, the undertaker claimed he could see no such marks.

Growing out of a desire to serve a customer who came into the barber shop where he worked this young man took a note next door to a waitress who it is alleged had been conducting a rather loose life on the side. Immediately the Negro was arrested and charged with attempting to ravish the woman and writing her notes. Evidence was introduced to show that the Negro could neither read nor write. This did not prevent his conviction, sentence and subsequent death at the hands of persons unknown.

But Professor Brier himself was marked as the man who had to be stopped. Without warning, the hooded mob descended simultaneously upon Brier's home, his crippled brother's home and his niece's home on the night of Nov 15, in an effort to locate the man who was behind all this uprising on the part of the Negroes.

Breaking through three rooms and finally into the bedroom where they thought they would find Brier, the Klansmen pillaged the room and then went about their business, the whole group assembling at the home of Brier's niece, Mrs. Singleton.

Mrs. Singleton sought police protection and appealed directly to the mayor of the town, but she was not harmed, although the Klansmen searched her home and terrorized her two young children.

Unbelievable are the stories they tell of the terrorism rampant in the town, which formerly was one of the best in South Carolina for Negroes. With a population of some 35,000 persons, 10,000 of whom are Negroes, Greenville had formerly enjoyed a healthy reputation.

Now the picture is all changed and Negroes live a most miserable existence, despite the fact that postal authorities have been advised of violation of postal laws by Klansmen who send through the mails threatening letters to Negroes, and the department of justice refusal to consider the case.

Letters have been sent to Postmaster General Farley and to the department of justice in the matter, but to date, nothing has been done although promises of action have been made.

Defending Negroes against in-

justices when brought before unfair courts was oseph Tolbert, a nephew of the famous "Tieless" Joe Tolbert, Republican committeeman for 40 years from the Palmetto state.

Mr. Talbert has suffered many indignities at the hands of his fellow townsmen because of his actions, but he continued to ren-

Concealed li- cense plates openly displayed pis- tols all are a part of the program of the Klan, both of which are in direct violation of city and state laws, though nothing has been done in it.

During the registration week, The mayor in a statement to the press made. and then only a p vestigation was mad Klan in Greenville, they began of the police dep their marauding night rides in the members of the Kl Negro districts. Not until a white man was flogged did the gover- though the police of nor take any stand against it, raided Negro homes unauthorized

LABOR - 1940
PEONAGE

GEORGIA

Says There's No Law To Convict Peonage Master

Ed Upender Chicago Ill.

SEP 28 1940

W. T. Cunningham, plantation owner in Oglethorpe county, Ga., a federal offender on many counts according to scores of affidavits by his former "peons" is not wanted by the United States Department of Justice.

Having recently escaped to Chicago, many of Cunningham's "peons" have given witness to the southern plantation owner's robbery of money from U. S. mails, repeated assaults and battery against his "peons," "framing" and "railroading" to the chain - gang those who attempted to escape his forced labor, and endeavoring to coerce by fraudulent means his former workers who had escaped to Chicago, back into "peonage."

Although Assistant Attorney General O. John Rogge recently made the public statement that there are laws on the statute books under which "peonage" can be successfully prosecuted, the U. S. Dept. of Justice failed to take action. The Cunningham case which was presented to the federal authorities about a year ago, has become the symbol of "debt slavery" in the South and a challenge to all America.

As the Georgia white Baptist convention pointed out, more people suffer "peonage" than suffered from "slavery" before the war between the states.

"If the United States government is derelict in its duty, then we must take the only course of action open to us," declared Bob Wirtz, regional secretary of the I.L.D., "sue the criminals for damages — and then perhaps, the government will be forced to do its duty."

Brutalities On Cunningham Farm Are Related Here

Hilliard Street Woman Tells Of Experience on Farm Chicago Attorney Is Having Investigated

An eye-witness to the alleged atrocities perpetrated upon colored plantation laborers by W. T. Cunningham, white, at Lexington, Oglethorpe County, Georgia, has been located here.

Interviewed Tuesday at her home, 72 Hilliard street, N. E. Mrs. Susie Gross, who worked as a sharecropper on Cunningham's plantation in 1918 and 1919, told of brutal incidents she witnessed during her stay there and of recent mistreatments her sons, daughters and brother suffered at the hands of the white planter.

William Henry Huff, Chicago attorney, is endeavoring to bring federal action against Cunningham and other white planters allegedly involved in the Oglethorpe county affair. He mailed a five-page letter to the Federal Bureau of Investigation in Atlanta on January 25, explaining in detail some of the slave-like occurrences related to him by former laborers on the Cunningham farm.

HUFF CONTACTS VICTIMS

Attorney Huff has been in direct contact during recent months with several persons who declared they fled from the Cunningham plantation. He said he also is in direct contact with former Cunningham plantation laborers now living in Atlanta, Cincinnati and Baltimore.

Mrs. Gross willingly stopped her kitchen duties Tuesday afternoon to tell of experiences she and members of her family received while working for Mr. Cunningham.

She let it be known at the outstart that Cunningham never struck her because she refused to stand for such treatment. She said the planter tried to keep her from leaving and she learned later that Cunningham had offered a laborer $30 to get her back to the farm.

As a sharecropper, Mrs. Gross said she and her children worked six acres of land during the two years she lived in Oglethorpe county.

NEVER FREED FROM DEBT

"Sure, I made more than enough to take care of my family, but Cunningham always said I owed him money," declared Mrs. Gross. "When I got tired and told him I was going to leave, he said I owed him $500."

She said she saw Cunningham beat a woman with a long board, saw him whip men as though they might have been brutes. "I saw him stand over men with guns and attack them because they wouldn't call him captain. Nearly all of the farm hands ran like rabbits when they saw Mr. Cunningham," she stated.

Mrs. Gross said she let her daughter, then 14 years old, go to the plantation in 1929 and nurse Cunningham's' children.

FEDERAL AGENTS SECURED

"Several months later I learned that Cunningham had struck my girl. I was afraid to go down there myself, so I went to federal authorities here in Atlanta. They told me to go on down there. Cunningham refused to let my daughter leave, so when I told the federal authorities of this, they sent a man down there and made the plantation owner give her railroad fare to Atlanta and taxi fare from the station to my home," Mrs. Gross told her interviewer.

One of the incidents that attracted much attention occurred recently when Mrs. Gross's son, Lonnie Walton went to the plantation to visit relatives and friends. Lonnie was there only one day and on his return trip to Atlanta, Will Flemming, Lonnie's uncle, accompanied them. Upon reaching Atlanta Flemming went directly to Chicago.

Then things began to happen. According to Mrs. Gross, Cunningham and a sheriff came to Atlanta and ordered Lonnie arrested on charges of "stealing corn and toting off laborers". The charge was changed to selling whiskey and aiding laborers to escape when the case went to trial. One farm hand testified that Walton sold him the liquor, Mrs. Gross said.

The youth was convicted and given a sentence of 12 months or a fine of $50. Mrs. Gross said she paid the fine about three months later.

ANOTHER PROMISE BROKEN

Another of Mrs. Gross sons, Luther Walton, and his family, ran away from the plantation in 1935. Now farming in Monroe, Georgia, Luther had been promised a horse and buggy and $100, but Mr. Cunningham never gave them to him, Mrs. Gross declared.

Mrs. Gross said Cunningham tried to book a criminal charge against Luther. She said whenever men ran away from the plantation. Cunningham went after them and had them arrested.

Cunningham is reported to have had a clash with the law in Chicago last year when he went there with a sheriff to find one of his former laborers.

Committee To Bare Georgia Situation Before Justice Dept.

Hundreds of Affidavits From Exploitation Victims Already Forwarded to D. C.

CHICAGO—(SNS)—Peonage in Oglethorpe County, Georgia will be laid square at the door of the Department of Justice early next month when representatives of the Abolish Peonage Committee will appear before Attorney General Robert H. Jackson to demand action.

"I am very much interested in the work of your committee and think you are doing a fine work for our race."

This was the statement made in a recent letter by Bishop R. A. Carter of the Second Episcopal District of the Colored Methodist Episcopal Church with headquarters in Tyler, Texas, to Bob Wirtz committee secretary.

Final arrangements were being made this week by Washington representatives for William Henry Huff, committee chief counsel, Bob Wirtz, committee secretary and one of the more than 30 Oglethorpe County refugees in Chicago to consult with the Attorney-General.

The committee has submitted hundreds of pages of affidavits to the Department of Justice showing that Cunningham and other Oglethorpe County landowners hold hundreds of Negro and white sharecroppers under a form of debt slavery.

The white Baptists of Georgia convicted the white landlords of their state in a resolution passed by the Georgia Baptist Convention at its last session in Augusta. Said the resolution:

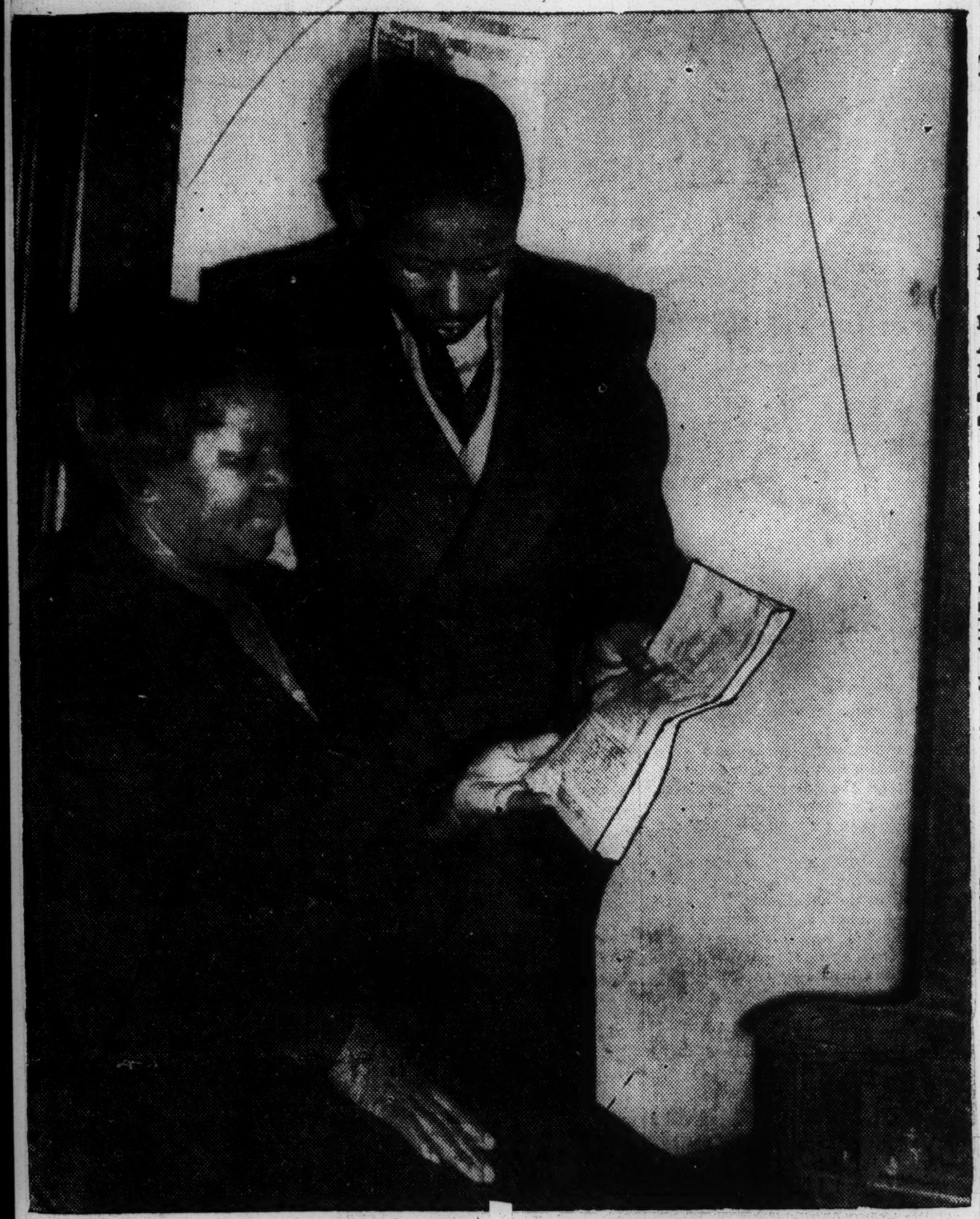
"Peonage 'or debt slavery 'has by no means disappeared from our land. There are more white people affected by this diabolical practice than (there) were slaveholders; there are more Negroes held by these debt slavers than were actually owned as slaves before the War between the states. The method is the only thing which has changed. Lynching mobs still disgrace our land with savage atrocities."

OGLETHORPE COUNTY CLUB

Aroused by the nationwide fight of the Abolish Peonage Committee to end debt slavery in their homeland, former residents of Oglethorpe County have started an organization to back this new crusade against slavery. Both refugees and those who came to Chicago under normal circumstances are members.

Jack Huff is president of the new organization which meets weekly on Chicago's South Side.

Claim Mistreatment On Plantation



Mrs. Susie Gross and her son, Lonnie Walton both of 72 Hilliard street, N. E., are shown here as they read correspondence from William Henry Huff, Chicago attorney, who is urging a federal probe of alleged atrocities perpetrated upon colored laborers by W. T. Cunningham, white planter of Lexington (Oglethorpe County) Georgia. Both Mrs. Gross and son Lonnie said they were mistreated on Cunningham's plantation. (SNS PHOTO).

ARE DESCRIBED

Assistant U.S. Attorney Urged To Prosecute W. T. Cunningham

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt was urged this week to use her influence to end peonage in Oglethorpe county, Ga.

The appeal was made in an open letter to Mrs. Roosevelt from the Abolish Peonage committee of the International Labor Defense and signed by Bob Wirtz, committee secretary.

Meanwhile, Assistant U. S. District Attorney John A. Looby Jr., in Chicago took under advisement a plea for prosecution of W. T. Cunningham, Oglethorpe county plantation owner, and his allies. The plea was presented last Thursday, Jan. 4, by three committee spokesmen: Chief Counsel William Henry Huff, Assistant Counsel Harry B. Ritman, and Wirtz.

The letter to Mrs. Roosevelt follows in part:

"I have been instructed by the Abolish Peonage Committee of the International Labor Defense to lay before you an outline of the task we are about, and to solicit your support in our organized campaign to free Americans from the bonds of peonage. In addition to seeking legal prosecution under the anti-peonage statutes of the United States, we feel that, since peonage is widesrpead in the South—"America's Economic Problem No. 1"—we must acquaint all America with the facts in the case.

Four Arrested

"W. T. Cunningham, owner and operator of the Sandy Cross and three other peonage farms in Oglethorpe county, came to Chicago on September 8, 1939, armed with governor's warrants, to recover three of his victims who had escaped from his farm, and accompanied by Deputy Sheriff John Paul and an attorney, Hamilton McWhorter.

"Doc and Otis Woods and Solomon McCannon were arrested on these warrants. Ed Raines was arrested and held "without process' until strong representations were made to local authorities. Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Smith were sought at a Chicago address that Cunningham had secured by threats from the Smiths' daughter, but were not apprehended since the daughter had given the wrong address.

"Al six are Negroes who have recently escaped from the Cunningham peonage farm and have found refuge in Chicago along with more than a score of other refugees from the same farm.

Ask Support

"A complaint in behalf of more than a score of refugees is now being prepared by the legal staff to be laid before United States District Attorney T. Hoyt Davis at Americus, Ga. We are following this procedure at the behest of Assistant United States Attorney General O. John Rogge of the Department of Justice in Washington.

"In addition to that, private suits are being drawn up in behalf of the escaped workers demanding back wages, prosecution of opening the U. S. mails, assault and battery, larceny, and violation of the Thirteenth, Fourteenth and Fifteenth amendments. The committee is also making efforts to collect all data possible on peonage in America, turpentine camps, share-cropping, and chain gangs. And it will avail itself of every opportunity to build a really powerful campaign of the American people, exposing and combatting these hangovers from tyrannical feudalism.

"We ask your support and urge you to join in this drive to clean from America's face the blotch of peonage from our southern states that America may more nearly approximate its declaration that all men are created equal and endowed with certain inalienable rights among which are the right to life liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. You could aid materially by helping us tell America about what is goining on within her own shores today."

Prisoner Bares Inhumanity Of Miss. Peonage System

PARCHMAN, Miss.—A startling story revealing the unfortunate plight of Negro tenant farmers and the inhuman treatment accorded the inmates of Mississippi State Penitentiary was disclosed this week when the Amsterdam News received a letter smuggled out of the state prison by an inmate sharecropper who has served three years of a ten year sentence imposed by Southern Justice! The prisoner had been a sharecropper.

Part of the letter revealing heretofore unpublished facts regarding treatment of Negroes on Mississippi sharecropping farms and plantations is as follows:

"In January 1937 I asked the owner of the plantation where I was a sharecropper for a crop settlement. He paid me $4.80 for a year's work. He charged me for groceries, fertilizer and clothes which I did not buy. I could not help myself that night, I moved from his plantation into town. I was tired of being a slave and working year after year for nothing."

Told to Go Back to Farm

"Several days later I saw my former landlord in town. He told me to go back to his farm and start plowing. When I refused to do this, he struck me with his fist. Being an old man and realizing conditions here, I had to take it. About fifteen minutes later, the police came and arrested me. The white man told the police that I had forged a check.

"I was charged with having run from the plantation while owing the boss money. I tried to explain to the police that I had been cheated out of money for 17 years and that I did not owe him a cent. The police told me not to dispute a white man's word and beat me and threw me into jail. I was railroaded to the penitentiary for nothing or because I was not willing to work on the landlord's plantation any longer for nothing.

No Parole System

"The State of Mississippi has no parole system but grants pardon, it is necessary to advertise don, t is necessary to advertise a petition in the local paper for thirty days. Afterwards, it is submitted to the governor.

"Negro tenant farmers have a hard time here. They exist in a virtual state of slavery. They are kept in debt, charged with things they don't buy and if they attempt to leave the plantation, the landolrd has them arrested on a charge that they are running away owing money. The landlord and the police are in cahoots.

"Conditions at the prison are inhuman. When charged with some petty violation of prison rules, we are forced to undress and are beat with a leather whip receiving from five to a hundred lashes. We have to work fourteen hours a day sick or well.

"If a prisoner reports sick and does not have a high fever, he his made to work regardless of his physical condtion. Men, prostrated from the heat, have died for the lack of medical attention. In addition to this, the guards make it a habit of stealing from the convicts.

"I can prove that all the above mentioned things are true. Anyone who would investigate conditions here would find them terrible. I'd rather be dead than continue living in this hole. Please help me do something, please.

"Ask your friends to help me. I need $37.50 to pay the cost of a thirty day advertisement for my petition for a pardon. Please help me.

"Your brother in Christ"
(Name withheld).

State Penitentiary,
Brickyard Camp
Parchman, Mississippi.

LABOR- 1940
PEONAGE

MISSISSIPPI

Negro Held in Forced Labor By Mill Owner

Case Called to Attention of Ass't Attorney Gen'l; Action Demanded

WASHINGTON, April 21.—An affidavit alleging that Claude B. Cistrunk, 22-year-old Negro worker, of Mashulaville, Miss., has been held in forced labor by two white Mississippi saw mill operators has been filed with O. John Rogge, assistant attorney general, by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

In the affidavit, Mr. Cistrunk stated that he borrowed $5 from Coleman and Kinch Watkins, white operators of a saw mill at Christmas time, 1938. He swears he offered to pay it back on two occasions, but each time they refused to accept his money and told him he would have to work it out.

He states that he was working as a helper on March 26, 1940, on a rural milk route when the Watkins brothers stopped him and one beat him with a stick while the other threatened him with an axe. He says they told him that if he moved back and worked for them "everything would be all right."

Attorney General Gets Complaint About Forced Mississippi Labor

WASHINGTON, D. C.—An affidavit alleging that Claude B. Cistrunk, 22, of Mashulaville, Miss., has been held in forced labor by two white Mississippi saw mill operators has been filed with O. John Rogge, assistant attorney general, by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

In the affidavit, Mr. Cistrunk stated that he borrowed $5 from Coleman and Kinch Watkins, white operators of a saw mill at Christmas time, 1938. He swears he offered to pay it back on two occasions, but each time they refused to accept his money and told him he would have to work it out.

He states that he was working as a helper on March 26, 1940, on a rural milk route when the Watkins brothers stopped him and one beat him with a stick while the other threatened him with an axe. He says they told him that if he moved back and worked for them "everything would be all right."

Department of Justice officials are investigating the charges. The complete affidavit follows:

"My name is Claude B. Cistrunk, I am 22 years old, married and have one child 2 years old. I live at Rt. 1, Box 148, Mashulaville, Mississippi. I farmed in 1939 with my wife's father and shared as one of the family.

"Prior to 1939 I had worked mostly as a day laborer.

"In 1938 my father and I worked at a saw mill near Mashulaville which belonged to the Watkins brothers (Coleman Watkins and Kinch Watkins.)

"At Christmas time I borrowed $5.00 from the Watkins brothers. Twice since that time I have offered to pay the Watkins brothers this money but each time they have refused to take it and have said that the only way I can repay the loan is to work it out.

"I have not wanted to work for them as there has been trouble between members of my family and the Watkins brothers.

"On Tuesday, March 26, 1940, I was helping Andrew Hill (a white man) on his truck, picking up milk and cream cans on a regular route. We were met by the Watkins brothers who halted us and proceeded to threaten me with a chopping axe and beat me severely about the head, arms, body and legs with a pole. Kinch Watkins did the beating while his brother, Coleman Watkins, stood guard with the axe.

Death Threat Made

"After Kinch Watkins had beaten me, Coleman Watkins told me that if I would move on their place and go to work everything would be o. k.

"Kinch Watkins then told me that if I reported this beating to Butler (referring to J. B. Butler, president of the Southern Tenant Farmers' Union) I had better take wings and fly. I understood this as a threat of death.

"The Watkins brothers at one time claimed that my father was indebted to them and refused to accept money for the debt. They told him that if he did not work out the debt they would kill him. A white man, Mr. Sam H. Simmons, employed a lawyer who forced the Watkins brothers to accept money in payment of the debt.

"Almost every person who stops working for the Watkins brothers leaves the neighborhood in fear of their lives.

"I name as witnesses, Andrew Hill, Robert Earl McCullin and Wilie James Cook.

"In witness whereof I hereby set my hand and seal this 4th day of April, 1940."

"Claudie B. Cistrunk."

Say Mississippi Saw Mill Owners Kept Man As Peon

WASHINGTON, D. C.—An affidavit alleging that Claude B. Cistrunk, 22, of Mashulaville, Miss., has been held in forced labor by two white Mississippi saw mill operators has been filed by O. John Rogge, as-

Refused Money Payment

In the affidavit, Mr. Cistrunk stated that he borowed $5 from Coleman and Kinch Watkins, white operators

of a saw mill, 1938. He swears he offered to pay it back on two occasions, but each time they refused to accept his money and told him he would have to work it out.

He states that he was working as a helper on March 26, 1940, on a rural milk route when the Watkins brothers stopped him and one beat him with a stick while the other threatened him with an axe. He says they told him that if he moved back and worked for them "everything would be all right."

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"Prior to 1939, I had worked mostly as a day laborer.

"In 1938 my father and I worked at a saw mill near Mashulaville which belonged to the Watkins brothers (Coleman Watkins and Kinch Watkins.)

Tells of Forced Labor In Mississippi Mill

Affidavit Is Filed With Government

Workers Say He Was Threatened, Hit With Stick

WASHINGTON, D. C.—An affidavit alleging that Claude B. Cistrunk, 22, of Mashulaville, Miss., has been held in forced labor by two Mississippi saw mill operators has been filed with O. J. Rogge, assistant attorney general, by the NAACP.

In the affidavit, Mr. Cistrunk stated that he borrowed $5 from Coleman and Kinch Watkins, white operators of a saw mill at Christmas time, 1938. He swears he offered to pay it back on two occasions, but each time they refused to accept his money and told him he would have to work it out.

BEATEN WITH STICK

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"we were met by the Watkins brothers who halted us proceeded to threaten me with a chopping axe and beat me severely about the head, arms, body and legs with a pole about 1½ to 2½ inches in diameter and about 3½ feet long. Kinch Watkins did the beating while his brother, Coleman, stood guard with the axe.

"After Kinch had beaten me, Coleman told me that if I would move on their place and go to work everything would be o. k.

"Kinch then told me that if I reported this beating to Butler (referring to J. B. Butler, president of the Southern Tenant Farmers Union) I had better take wings and fly. I understood this as a threat of death.

REFUSED MONEY

"The Watkins brothers at one time claimed that my father was indebted to them and refused to accept money for the debt. They told him that if he did not work out the debt they would kill him. A white man, Mr. Sam H. Simmons, employed a lawyer who forced the Watkins brothers to accept money in payment of the debt.

"Almost every person who stops working for the Watkins brothers leaves the neighborhood in fear of their lives.

"I name as witnesses, Andrew Hill, Robert Earl McCullin, and Willie James Cook."

Attorney General Gets Complaint on Forced Labor in Mississippi

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"After Kinch Watkins had beaten me, Coleman Watkins told me that if I would move on their place and go to work everything would be O. K.

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"Almost every person who stops working for the Watkins brothers leaves the neighborhood in fear of their lives.

"I name as witnesses, Andrew Hill, Robert Earl McCullin, and Willie James Cook.

"In witness whereof I hereby set my hand and seal this fourth day of April, 1940."

"Claudie B. Cistrunk"

LABOR PEONAGE
1940

NEW JERSEY

'PEONAGE' ON FARMS IN JERSEY CHARGED

Times

System of Recruiting Negroes in South to Pick Potatoes Scored at House Inquiry

8-1-40

WORK DONE BY CONTRACT

New York

Contractors Mercilessly Exploit Workers, Witness Declares at Final Session Here

By BYRON DARNTON

The method by which Negro workers are recruited in the South each year to pick New Jersey's vast potato crop was described as a "damnable system of peonage" by a witness at yesterday's session of a Congressional committee investigating the destitute migrant problem.

The witness—Arthur J. Edwards, representing a group of New Jersey Congregational and Christian churches—was the last to testify in the opening series of hearings held at the Federal Court Building. The committee will hold additional hearings at migrant centers in other part of the country, and in January will recommend legislation to the House of Representatives.

Mr. Edwards said that Negro workers were brought up from States as far south as Florida in labor contractors' trucks in circumstances that were "hardly believable." The trucks are jammed to capacity, he said, and they never stop except for meals.

He placed in evidence a report of the Home Mission Council and Council of Women for Home Missions, 297 Fourth Avenue, which asserted that in many cases the contractors mercilessly exploited the workers.

According to this report, prepared by an organization that has been doing social work in the area for years, the contractor makes an agreement with the individual farmer to dig, grade and sack his potatoes at a set rate per sack. The farmer also agrees to pay $2 for the transportation of each worker.

"The farmer has three responsibilities—supplying the tools, housing the workers and paying the transportation costs of the number of workers he employs," the report said. "The workers receive their money from the contractor."

How the System Works

As the system works out, the report continued, the amount paid by the contractors for picking and grading 250 bags of potatoes is $8.25, but they receive perhaps as much as $20 for that service from the grower, making a profit of $11.25. In addition, the contractor collects not only from the grower but also from the individual laborer for transportation, usually getting $3.50 from each, according to the report.

"And if the contractor is to take the workers back after the season, it is $3.50 more," the mission investigators found. "If they don't pay that he takes them to Virginia and abandons them since, by law, he must remove them from New Jersey.

"The contractor charges the workers for everything. Most of the families that come up are as much as $25 to $50 in debt to him before they earn a dime."

The real profits, the report added, are not from the spread between the amount the contractor receives from the farmer and the amount he pays the members of his gang, but from the "exploitation of these miserable workers who make the contractor's living for him."

This testimony contradicted evidence at previous committee hearings given by New Jersey potato growers. Growers' representatives said that they paid pickers directly, not through contractors, and that proof of the satisfaction of the pickers with their jobs was the fact that many of them returned year after year.

All this evidence will finally play an important part in the committee's findings, as one of the questions in which Chairman John H. Tolan, California Democrat, is most interested is the operation of labor contractors who supply workers across State lines.

Would Build Model Camp

Mr. Edwards told the committee that he had sounded out the Farm Relief Administration on the possibility of establishing a permanent camp for migrants at Port Norris, N. J., where testimony indicated that more than 1,000 Negroes employed in the oyster industry lived in dangerously unhealthy shacks. This camp would be on the pattern of those operated by the FSA in California and other large migrant communities. Mr. Edwards also advocated the setting up of two mobile FSA camps to follow vegetable and other crops in the State.

The FSA, this witness said, had given him some encouragement, but did not wish to act unless the local authorities so requested.

"Locally," Mr. Edwards explained, "there is fear that if such housing were available the migrants might not want to go home when the season was over."

Harold A. Lett, executive secretary of the New Jersey Urban League, told the committee that the Port Norris oyster workers lived in "the worst imaginable shacks, erected on stilts on the sand flats." He added that "only a miracle and the good work of the State Health Department" had prevented that community from becoming a serious threat to the health of the surrounding area, notably in typhoid fever and malaria.

Mr. Lett, himself a Negro, also testified that "unthinking employers" were contributing to a growing problem of racial antipathies by bringing in large numbers of Negro workers and, contrary to law, releasing them on the community when there was no more work for them.

Mrs. Caroline O'Day, New York Representative-at-Large, expressed the belief that sweatshop labor for children had ceased to be a factor in industry but was becoming a growing factor in agriculture.

At the end of the hearing Representative Tolan explained that the investigation had been opened in New York in an effort to dramatize the fact that the migrant problem is not found merely in the agricultural sections of the West and South. The hearings had brought out, he said, that large cities also have their problems with migrants seeking industrial and service jobs, and any Federal program to deal with the question would have to cover such persons.

Slavery—1940 Style

Daily worker 8-12-40

• "A Negro in Robeson County, N. C., offered himself for sale for $325 in a newspaper advertisement." New York.

So reads an item in the Herald-Tribune a few days ago. Exactly three lines were given to this story by the Tribune, although it tells of the abysmal degradation being heaped upon the people in the South, with the Negroes being forced into literal bondage. The medieval conditions in which slave-owners used to put up human beings for sale—that's what this brief item recalls.

Less than 80 years ago, the rising American Republic found it necessary to free the Negro people in order to further its own democratic progress. Chattel slavery was alike dragging down the white workers. But now capitalism, having outlived its usefulness and having become a fetter around the necks of the people, is leading the country back to the middle ages. Peonage is rife in the South, millions of sharecroppers and tenant farmers are being driven from the land—and now, slavery. 8-12-40

Can there be any clearer example that the war-hunger program of Wall Street and its two parties is enslaving the people? Not only is it necessary for the people to defeat this program. But it is high time that wider and more serious thought be given to Socialism, the only system which can bring the American people out of this capitalist mess into permanent democracy, peace and happiness.

LABOR-1940
OCCUPATIONS WAGES ETC...

Use Of Child Labor Defined Under Wage And Hour Measure

DEC 21 1940

In order to acquaint the general public, employers and workers with the purposes and provisions of the fair labor standards act, The News is presenting a series of short articles in cooperation with the wage and hour division, U. S. Department of Labor.

* * *

Children under 18 may not b employed in:

1. Plants manufacturing explo sives.

2. The operation of motor vehicle or as helpers on motor vehicles.

3. Coal mines, except slate pick ing, repair, maintenance or offic work on the surface.

Children under 16 may not b employed in:

1. Manufacturing or mining.

2. The operation or tending o hoisting apparatus or power-driver machines other than office ma chines.

3. Public messenger service.

Children between 14 and 16 may be employed under the following conditions:

1. Outside school hours, but no more than 18 hours any week and not more than three hours in any day when school is in session; and not more than 40 hours any week and not more than eight hours in any day when school is not in session.

2. Between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. in any one day, except in the distribution of newspapers.

3. Between 6 a.m. and 7 p.m. in any one day in the distribution of newspapers, except that during the period from April 1 to Sept. 30 in each year the evening limit shall be 8 p.m.; provided, however, that no minor shall be employed in the distribution of newspapers both before and after noon of any day when school is in session, except between the hours of 7 a.m. and 7 p.m.

The child labor provisions of the act do not apply to a young worker:

If he is employed in agriculture while not legally required to attend school.

If he is under 16 and employed by his parents, or persons standing in the place of parents, in occupations other than manufacturing or mining.

If he is employed as an actor in motion pictures or theatrical productions.

* * *

(Further information may be obtained by writing Katherine Lenroot, chief of the Children's Bureau, U. S. Department of Labor, Washington, D. C.)

Wage-Hour Unit Head Can Set Up Minimum Pay For An Industry

DEC 22 1940

In order to acquaint the general public, employers and workers with the purposes and provisions of the fair labor standards act, The News is presenting a series of short articles in cooperation with the wage and hour division, U. S. Department of Labor.

* * *

Minimum wages higher than 30 cents an hour, but not exceeding 40 cents an hour, may be established by Col. Philip B. Fleming, administrator of the Wage and Hour Division, by issuing an industry wage order based on the recommendation of an industry committee.

Eleven industry wage orders are already in effect providing rates as follows:

Hosiery—32½ cents for seamless and 40 cents for full-fashioned.

Textiles—32½ cents.

Millinery—40 cents.

Boots and shoes—35 cents.

Knitted underwear and commercial knitting—33½ cents.

Woolen goods—36 cents.

Hats—40 cents, except 35 cents for straw and harvest hats.

Knitted outerwear—35 cents.

Apparel—32½ cents, 35 cents, 37½ cents and 40 cents.

Pulp and paper—40 cents.

Leather—40 cents.

* * *

Further information may be obtained by writing Robert T. Amis, regional director, wage and hour division, Birmingham.

LABOR - 1940
OCCUPATION WAGES ETC.

Commercial Unit Contacts Public

By EFFIE M. GOODE

DEC 25 1940

MOBILE, Ala. —(ANP)— The Booker T. Washington Sales agency a commercial organization with home offices in Tuskegee institute, occupies a unique organization has been employed by the Nehi Bottling corporation of Columbus, Ga. makers of Royal Crown Cola and Nehi Fruit flavors, on a national advertising program.

Daily World

The "Sons of the South" artists of the Booker T. Washington Sales agency are appearing in the various southern cities in which there is a branch of the Nehi corporation and presenting through churches, schools, conventions and over the radio this program. Through this medium the Nehi corporation is selling its products as well as expressing its appreciation for Negro patronage. The artists have sung over some of the leading radio stations of the country, over CBS and NBC networks; in many of the country's leading theatres, schools and churches' both white and Negro, and for the President of the United States. Last summer they sang for the Elks in St. Louis; in September they appeared before the world's largest Negro organization, the National Baptist convention, when that body met in Birmingham, and made two daily appearances for two weeks at the American Negro Exposition in Chicago. They have a varied repertoire, but feature Negro spirituals.

The agency has contacted more than 800,000 consumers during the past month—exclusive of the vast radio audiences.

The secretary, Mrs. A. V. Mundy, explains the work of the agency to all audiences, and tells of the contribution that the Nehi corporation is making to the race by helping to preserve Negro music and employing race talent.

The members of the "Sons of the South" are: Leroy Brown, director and second tenor; W. Charles Gordon, first tenor; Algie N. Hough, second tenor; Carl Braxton, baritone; Edward B. Scales, basso, and Arlington Grant, baritone soloist. S. J. Phillips is president of the Booker T. Washington Sales agency and Mrs. A. V. Mundy is secretary.

These artists spent two weeks in Mobile recently presenting their advertising program in churches and schools. They broadcast from local station WMOB two evenings of each week of their stay here, and gave a Sunday morning program.

THE ART AND DUTY OF TIPPING

Tipping is an age-old institution and there are good indications that it will grow older. As people we like it. It is a purely human and voluntary means of sharing what we have or accepting what we haven't. It is one custom the race as a whole should be complimented on.

A willingness to part company on occasions with nickels, dimes, or dollars is a surprising feather in the cap of personal generosity and self-esteem; a willingness to accept some token for good service rendered further proves we have not produced a race of super-sensitive waiters, porters, bellboys, etc., who wear their feelings on their sleeves as a flaunt to better judgment and more practical nature.

It should be remembered, however, that tipping is usually prompted by generosity, good faith, and good nature that it is not as far as we know, required by either state or federal laws; that it is absolutely demanded only in certain types of places from which, if a man has the wherewithal for the tip, and is able to get out of such place by whatever means possible, he should proceed to some safer and better place.

The attitude of Montgomery tip-takers has by no means become as yet either demanding or unappreciative. It comes to us, possibly as a figment of the half-guilty imagination, that the mass of this city's extended hands closes more casually these days over the proffered nickel; that the sea of faces reflected in the silver trays grows daily more expectant; that the same faces show visible disappointment and even open hostility when there is no responsive change-chime in the receptacle.

One who is cursed with a gentleman's consicence and has to take at least one meal a day downtown, owes it to his self-respect and to his pocketbook to imagine in turn that the waiter who has not been properly rewarded for cutting the steak, is not always silently describing the repellent characteristics of a cheapskate, but is sometimes probably recalling the death of a relative or contemplating Milton's "Il Penseroso" when his face falls.

We owe it to ourselves to sit at comfortable tables rather than hiked up on the lunch counters where no tip is expected. We owe it to ourselves to tell ourselves convincingly that if this were some special occasion, and not a routine affair, we should find gratification and even a sense of well being in topping off a good meal with the accustomed bonus of one-tithing the bill to the waiter, and and . . .

We owe it to ourselves to consider that in not exceptional cases the injured looking waiter, though wearing an apron and a hurt smile inviting special patronage, is financially better off than we.

It is a duty to our personal esteem to realize that in many eating places the man with the plates parts company with all offerings as soon as we have made satisfactory exit, and that our nickels constitute a substantial part of the owner's intake.

Finally, we owe it to ourselves to ask why all tips are not included in the price on the menu, and comforting signs "No tipping" posted at places strategically restful to the eyes.

These measures would save us the mental harassment of deliberating with our better natures while eating, and in the longrun would save us the considerable time in which most of us always end up by fishing for the right tip change.

THREE DIE IN BLAST—Three Negroes were instantly killed in a dynamite explosion at the T. C. I. ore mine at Ishkooda Friday afternoon. A charge they were preparing went off prematurely, company officials said. Above, a scene at the mine opening as onlookers watched removal of the bodies. One of the Negroes is being placed in the ambulance.

AUG 31 1940

Three Negro Miners Killed In Explosion At T. C. I.'s Ishkooda

AUG 31 1940

Premature Blast Fatal To Workers Friday; 130 Other Employes Escape

A dynamite explosion took the lives instantly of three Negroes at the Tennessee Coal, Iron & Railroad Company's ore mine at Iskooda Friday afternoon.

The dead, as identified by company officials, were:

Andy Baird, 50, section helper, of 702 Avenue E, Iskooda Village.

Joe Simmons, 45, drill runner, 702 Avenue B, Iskooda Village.

Haze Ellington, 39, section helper, 425 Fillman Street Titusville.

They were working in Shaft No. 13. No other miners were injured and there was no general explosion.

E. M. Ball, general superintendent of ore mines and quarries for the T. C. I., said the three were killed when a dynamite charge they were preparing exploded prematurely about 2 p.m.

Two weeks ago, company officials said, the Ishkooda mine received a Joseph H. Holmes Safety Association award for having operated without a lost time accident from Nov. 21, 1938, to Oct. 8, 1939, employing an average force of 266 men, working 415,284 man-hours.

Approximately 276 sticks of dynamite were thought to have exploded in the accident, which occurred about 3,500 from the mine opening. Jim Hindon, mechanical loader operator, who was several hundred feet from the location of the explosion, said he was thrown from his seat by the blast.

Four other men, part of the same crew, escaped injury. They were in a separate passage. Their names, Sam Pitts, white, head miner, and James Carter, Jesse Burke and Abraham Smiley, Negroes.

Ball said approximately 130 men were in the mine at the time.

Officials determined 140 sticks of dynamite exploded. One hundred and thrity-five sticks lying nearby did not explode.

Skilled Craftsmen Situation In Alabama Rather Muddled

Jefferson County's available skilled labor presents a rather complex picture.

There are not enough of these craftsmen were the demand measurably stepped up.

But as matters stand today, there are a couple of thousand strictly skilled craftsmen looking for jobs.

These disclosures came with release of a report covering an exhaustive study of the situation by the Alabama State Employment Service.

The report was compiled, and the study made, primarily at the insistence of the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce and the City Commission, which are carefully laying the foundation to obtain as large a part of the national armament program as possible for her own industries.

For instance, there are available, through the state service, 1,632 white male craftsmen. These are men who have served apprenticeships or, by virtue of their years of experience, are entitled to the rating of craftsmen.

In the same category are 291 Negro males.

In a second group, listed as skilled workers, but who may or may not have served apprenticeships, are 1,713 white males and 915 Negro males.

Thus we have a total, in these files, of 4,551 men under the combined headings of craftsmen and skilled workmen.

But an examination of the figures shows that of the 1,632 skilled craftsmen, 736 are 46 or more years of age, a factor that may or may not seriously affect their efficiency, depending upon the type of work involved.

These men are in addition, of course, to available men who have not made application through the service, although these would be few, and those available through the certain extent in this district.

But on the other side of the picture is this fact.

Through its system of coordination, the company training in progress to almen from other sections of the state where skilled workers are not and would not be needed, so that any slack in the industrial district could be taken up forthwith, even without the necessity of bringing men in from other sections.

In making public the report, Louie L. Rhudy, manager of the Birmingham office, said he particularly wanted to avoid the impression that skilled craftsmen or workers of any type are needed in the Birmingham district.

If the need does arise, adequate facilities are available to supply the demand through shifting workers in various sections of the state.

On the basis of the report, therefore, it appears that the district is adequately prepared to take care of any new operations its civic leaders may be able to obtain, or can be placed in that position in short order, once the type work and classification of employes is determined.

Associated Industries of Alabama through its president, Herbert Stockham, has disclosed that the membership of the organization stands ready to throw its machine into motion in a cooperative move with the government, and has endeavored to acquaint itself thoroughly with probable needs, and to prepare itself to meet these needs when called upon to do so.

How Will It Work?

The primary purpose behind an amendment adopted by the United States Senate, barring Communists and "Nazi Bund" members from jobs in interstate industry, is, we suppose, to safeguard this country's accelerated defense program. That, of course, is an extremely important purpose, with which the people of the country are in overwhelming sympathy.

But just who is a Communist, who a bundist? How the answers to such important questions will be determined is not defined, and it is difficult for us to see how it will be clearly and fairly set forth.

Then, assuming an American citizen does come within the banned categories, what is he supposed to do if he is denied all chance for a job in interstate industry, or as has also been proposed, on work relief. Are these persons to be put in concentration camps because of their beliefs?

Surely, there is a risk here that citizens whose loyalty to their country is strong and firm may be driven in the direction of bitterness and disloyalty by such a measure as this.

Of course, any citizens dangerous to the country's welfare should be kept under strictest surveillance and out of places where they can do harm to the country's defense program. But a great danger to America's freedom, traditions and safety also exists in the fact that if such a broad law is passed, there is no telling who might be considered as coming under its ban.

Are we to protect America's freedom by abandoning a very large measure of it?

THREE ISHKOODA MINE WORKERS KILLED IN BLAST

Reason For Premature Dynamite Explosion Is Reported Unknown

Three Negroes were killed instantly yesterday afternoon in a dynamite explosion at the Tennessee Coal, Iron & Railroad Company's Ishkooda ore mine at Ishkooda, located on Red Mountain approximately 10 miles southwest of Birmingham.

The victims were identified by mine officials as:

ANDY BYRD, 50, section helper, of 702 Avenue C, Ishkooda Village.

HAZE ELLINGTON, 39, section helper, of 425 Hillman Street, Titusville.

JOE SIMMONS, 45, drill runner, of 702 Avenue B, Ishkooda Village.

E. M. Ball, general superintendent of ore mines and quarries for the T. C. I., said the three were preparing to set off a charge of dynamite in the twenty-eighth left heading of Slope 13, when the charge exploded prematurely. He said it would take considerable investigation to determine what caused the charge to go off ahead of time.

The explosion happened at approximately 2 p.m.

The men were a part of a crew of seven—a white man and six Negroes.

The four other men, who were in another upset—a separate passage—escaped injury. Approximately 130 men were in the mine at the time, Ball asserted.

Four In Crew Escape

The men in the same crew escaping were identified as Sam Pitts, white man, the head miner, and James Carter, Jesse Burke and Abraham Smiley, Negroes.

Also on the scene and directing operations were C. B. Cameron, superintendent, and R. H. Bumgardner, manager of the safety and casualty bureau of the T. C. I.

Company officials announced that the Ishkooda mine had only two weeks ago received a Joseph H. Holmes Safety Association award-certificate for having operated without a lost-time accident from Nov. 21, 1938, to Oct. 8, 1939, employing an average force of 266 men, working 415,284 man-hours.

The explosion happened approximately 3,500 feet from the opening of the mine. Approximately 276 sticks were thought to have exploded. Jim Hindon, operator of a mechanical loader, wh[illegible]s in the slope several hundred [illegible]m the location of the expl[illegible]he was thrown from h[illegible] force of the blast.

Newsmen were a[illegible] the scene of the [illegible] the courtesy of F[illegible] Jack Eaken

LABOR- 1940
OCCUPATION, WAGES, ETC.

ALABAMA

Booker T. Washingtn Sales Agency Of Tuskegee Given Contract

Age.- 6/29/40 - New York, N.Y.

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala.—The Nehi Corporation has recently given a contract to the Booker T. Washington Sales Agency of Tuskegee Institute to make a sales promotion tour among the Negro markets of the South, North and East.

The personnel of the Booker T. Washington Sales Agency consists of well-trained workers in their respective fields. The Nehi Corporation is bidding for the wholehearted support of the Negroes of America to the end that a new field of employment—the advertising and merchandising field—be opened to trained Negro workers.

This agency is using its radio artists, the well known "Sons of the South," as an added attraction for the public on this tour. These singers, have made a very fine reputation for themselves over the airwaves as well as in personal public appearance concert work. They are well known over many small stations and have also broadcast over the Columbia and the National Broadcasting stations. These singers have all received their training at Tuskegee Institute and at one time were members of the world-famous Tuskegee Choir.

The Agency has just completed a tour of several weeks in Alabama. During this period more than one hundred thousand Negroes were contacted—exclusive of the radio audience. Shown in the picture above, reading from left to right: Alvie Hough, S. J. Phillips, president, the Booker T. Washington Sales Agency; Mrs. A. V. Mundy, secretary; W. C. Gordon, Florence Mundy, Edward B. Scales and James Braxton.

The Nehi Corporation makes Royal Crown Cola, Hehi and Par-t-Pak beverages.

Birmingham, Ala. Age-Herald
August 9, 1940

GREENSBORO, Ala., Aug. 8—The Hale County mattress project is expected to be completed by Sept. 1 with 1,875 of the 3,780 mattresses called for already made. The project has 35 white and 32 Negro centers.

Mobile, Ala., ForumSun,
Sept. 13, 1940

The bus company nas appointed a very capable young woman of our group as Public Relations Representative among Colored People. She has a field of broad opportunity for service. The busses while avowedly anxious to express appreciation for our support have been slow in convincing us that they are not the causes of many antagonisms and difficulties. I hope that because of this Representative things will be more pleasant on these common carriers.

Mobile, Ala., Forum Sun,
Sept. 20, 1940-

Mrs. J.L. LeFlore newly appointed Public Relations Representative Among Colored People for the Mobile Light and Railroad Company.

Birmingham, Ala. Age-Herald
November 6, 1940

Hospital Bills Okehed

The City Commission Tuesday authorized payments amounting to $93.50 for hospital bills and medical care of three Negro employes in the garbage department said to have been injured at work. The payments will be made to Dr. T. K. Lewis. A payment of $81.50 was authorized for treatment of Willie Griffin Houston, said to have been crushed between a garbage truck and a pole. Other payments were of $6 each for minor injuries to John Thomas and Willie Orie.

Mobile, Ala., Register
October 12, 1940

Two Workmen Treated Here For Injuries

Two colored workmen were under treatment at City Hospital today for injuries suffered in accidents here and at Lock 3, on the Tombigbee River.

Frank Powell, 35-year-old colored man, suffered a broken leg and bruises to his other leg when a chain attached to a winch on a Federal Barge Line towboat snapped and hit him at Lock 3 Thursday. The man was taken to Demopolis, sent from there to Mobile by bus, and was removed from the bus station to Marine Hospital in a Sirmon ambulance.

Isaac Copeland, 37, colored longshoreman, residing at 219 Second Court, had his right leg broken in an accident while he was at work at the State Docks yesterday. He was taken to City Hospital in a Sirmon ambulance.

Employment Effort Is Fatal To Negro

NOV 19 1940

A system of signals and his rush to obtain employment cost the life of Floyd Austin, Negro, of 1814 South Fifteenth Street in a traffic mishap downtown Tuesday morning.

The Negro, about 21, was pronounced dead on arrival at Hillman Hospital after being run over by a large loaded truck at Eighteenth Street and Powell Avenue. He was the thirty-fifth traffic fatality this year.

Traffic Investigator Davis Jones and eyewitnesses said they had been informed by the driver of the truck, J. W. Sylvester, of Montgomery, also a Negro, that Sylvester had driven north on Eighteenth Street and slowed down at the intersection. The truck was loaded with pecans.

As is customary when they want helpers, according to Officer Jones, Sylvester held up one finger indicating he wanted to hire one helper. Before the truck driver could bring the vehicle to a complete stop, however, five Negroes made for the truck to be first to get the job, the victim being among the number.

As the truck driver made an effort to bring the truck to a complete stop, Austin fell, the front right wheel passing over his body, killing him instantly.

No charges were placed against the driver.

WAGE-HOUR COMPLAINT AIRED BY FARM CO-OPS

Definition Of 'Area of Production' Seen As Hardship

From The Commercial Appeal
Little Rock Bureau

LITTLE ROCK, April 5.— The Wage-Hour Act definition of "area of production" works to the detriment of Arkansas Farmer Cooperatives, representatives of the Arkansas Farmers Union told a Wage-Hour Administration investigator today.

William Eaves, Kentucky and Tennessee wage-hour director heard testimony that co-operatives were made liable to the minimum wage and maximum hour provisions of the bill when they operated in a town of 2500 population or larger or when co-operative canneries or packing sheds drew farm production from an area outside a 10-mile radius. Witnesses contended this lowered the price paid the farmer for his produce.

Mr. Eaves held a conference of canner, grower and labor representatives at the capital as part of a study of basis of complaints against the area of production definition. He will go to Fayetteville Tuesday to complete the Arkansas survey.

Ark. Beauticians May Land Inspection Job

PINE BLUFF, Ark., March 29—Beauticians will seek the appointment of Race inspectors on the state board of cosmetic therapy, according to an announcement by Mrs. D. Collingworth Jefferson, secretary of the state sponsoring committee for an "Arkansas Colored Beautician association."

The sponsoring committee of which Mrs. Mary Ellen Patterson, Little Rock, is chairman, has issued a call to every beautician to meet in Little Rock, March 31, for the purpose of creating a permanent organization.

The committee has organized chapters at Little Rock, Pine Bluff, McGehee, Morillton, and El Dorado. Each chapter will send delegates, and other beauticians in small towns where no organization exists will be expected to attend.

The objectives of the sponsoring committee are: (1) to organize Race beauticians in Arkansas; (2) to seek the appointment of a Race member to the Arkansas State Board of Cosmetic Therapy; (3) to secure the appointment of Race inspectors; (4) to seek the prosecution of unlicensed beauty operators, and (5) to organize local chapters wherever practicable.

Officers and members of the committee are Mrs. Mary Ellen Patterson, Little Rock, chairman; Mrs. Frax Walton, Pine Bluff, vice chairman; Mrs. D. Collingworth Jefferson, Pine Bluff, secretary; Mrs. Victoria Knight, North Little Rock, treasurer; Miss S. A. Pruitt, Mrs. Alberta Davis, Miss Evelyn Wells, Mrs. Ida Belle Rice, Mrs. Georgia Hickman, and Miss Annie Mae Poole, all of Pine Bluff; Mrs. Ila Fay Rodgers, El Dorado; Mrs. Flossie Campbell, McGehee; Mrs. O. A. Harris, North Little Rock; Mrs. J. N Harris, Holly Grove; Mrs. Austine Williams and Mrs. Velma Henderson, both of Little Rock.

Arkansas Holds State-Wide Negro Job Confab

LITTLE ROCK, Ark.—(SNS)—The eleventh in the series of officially sponsored State-wide conferences on Negro Employment was held here Tuesday in the library of the New Pulaski County Court House. Two hundred outstanding leaders of both races met on the invitation of Governor Carl E. Bailey for the purpose of considering the social objectives of the employment security program with particular reference to the available opportunities in the local labor market, occupational skill and specific employment needs of the Arkansas Negro population.

Lieut. Lawrence A. Oxley of the Social Security Board, Washington, was in charge of the conference. The Arkansas Conference marked another significant forward step in the nation-wide attack directed by Lieut. Oxley's office in an effort to bring an awareness to the local officials and leaders in industry and labor, the seriousness of the problem faced by the Negro worker in his search for adequate, productive and continuing employment on a broader occupational base.

Similar conferences have been held in North Carolina, Kentucky, Ohio, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Missouri, and Pennsylvania. During the months of March, April and May, conferences are planned for South Carolina, Texas, Virginia, Metropolitan Chicago, Metropolitan New York City, Michigan, Indiana, Pittsburgh and Buffalo

State-Wide Conference On Negro Employment

LITTLE ROCK, Ark.—Two hundred leaders of both races attended the 11th in a series of officially sponsored state-wide conferences on Negro employment, Tuesday, in the Pulaski County Courthouse.

The leaders attended the conference on the invitation of Governor Carl E. Bailey for the purpose of considering the social objectives of the employment security program. Lieutenant Lawrence A. Oxley, of the Social Security Board, Washington, D.C., presided at the conference.

Similar meetings have been held in North Carolina, Kentucky, Ohio, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, and Pennsylvania. During the months of March, April and May, conferences are planned for South Carolina, Texas, Virginia, Metropolitan Chicago, Metropolitan New York Michigan, Pittsburgh, Indiana, and Buffalo.

DOMESTIC WAGE IN LITTLE ROCK $3.86

NOV 16 1940

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., Nov. 14—(ANP)—The average wage paid domestic help in Little Rock during the past year, was $3.86 per week, according to estimates made by C. E. Minton, executive secretary of the Urban League of this city. Most employers seeking help at the League's employment bureau refused to discuss the matter of salary saying that they preferred to take the salary question up directly with the employe. Some offered as low as $2 per week, while the highest range was $5.

Californian to Post as Electrical Engineer at Huge Power Plant

Lee Julian Purnell of Berkeley Gets Big Job As Result of Civil Service Examination

The Call
Kansas City Mo.
DEC 6 1940

BERKELEY, Cal. — Lee Julian Purnell has been appointed to the position of assistant electrical engineer with the Bonneville Power Administration, Portland, Ore., and left Friday to take over his new position..

The appointment was received through the United States Civil Service.

His post is at Bonneville dam, built at a cost of $51,000,000, at a location 42 miles west of Portland, on the Columbia river. It is one of the largest power and water projects ever built.

It has the highest single lift ship lock in the world, fish ladders to permit salmon to reach spawning ground in headwaters of the Columbia river, and a huge spillway which releases impounded waters into a lake 50 miles long banked up against the tremendous dam.

Mr. Purnell's previous engineering experience includes five years with the Pacific Gas and Electrical company, San Francisco.

He received his bachelor of arts degree in mathematics and physics from the University of California; bachelor of science and electrical engineering from Massachusetts Institute of Technology; master of science, electrical engineering, from University of California. His thesis for his master's degree was "Theory and Principles of Electrical Substation Design."

Mr. Purnell is the son of the late Dr. William W. Purnell and Mrs. Theodore Purnell, pioneer Berkeleyans.

Three Negroes To Aid In Designing Air Planes

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.
DEC 31 1940

LOS ANGELES—(A N P)—John H. Owens, Jr., 19 year old graduate of the aircraft fabrication department of the Santa Monica Technical college, is one of the three colored boys among 60,000 airplane workers in Southern California to actually get a job in the fabrication end of the plane industry under the national defense program.

Owens is a regular employe of the Douglas Aircraft corporation of Santa Monica. After graduation from Polytechnic High school with a good record, Owens was given a free scholarship in the Santa Monica Technical college, through the NYA. He was promised a job if he could make the grade, along with one other colored boy and five white boys of his class.

Owens completed the course with a perfect record both as to attendance, efficiency and manual skill and was given a job in the fabrication department upon completion of the course. The National Negro congress in conjunction with several locals of the CIO industrial unions for aircraft workers are pushing for the employment of more colored aircraft workers. Owens is the son of Mr. and Mrs. John H. Owens, well known for their active interest in civic affairs of Los Angeles.

Win Jobs for Negroes n California Campaign

Sunday Worker 4-7-40

(Special to the Sunday Worker)

OAKLAND, Calif., April 6.—The campaign for jobs for Negroes in West Oakland is constantly gaining momentum. The campaign was launched here a few weeks ago and has aroused the entire community. About two weeks ago the Citizens Committee for Jobs for Negroes, under the leadership of Rev. H. T. S. Johnson, progressive minister, pastor or Taylor Memorial Methodist Church, organized a picket line around a number of stores—two stores and one restaurant—in the Negro territory to demand jobs for Negroes.

A mass picket line at Romley's Market persuaded them to hire a Negro at union wages for six hours every day and eight hours on Saturday. This served as a great encouragement to the entire community, so that within two days Lekos Market immediately followed suit by hiring a Negro woman clerk. This was further encouragement. The De Luxe Chili Parlor, the restaurant picketed, at first tried to hide behind a technicality, stating that the place was unionized, therefore, the entire matter was left up to the union. The committee immediately blocked this attempt by going directly to the union. The joint board of the Culinary Workers Unions, A. F. of L., agreed to cooperate with the committee. This was significant because the committee demonstrated its understanding of how to handle such problems, also it proved to the Negro people that the unions are willing to cooperate with them in so-lution of their problems.

The committee is composed of citizens of all walks of life in the community; representatives of civic and social clubs, ministers, the National Negro Congress. The CIC Council, at its last meeting officially endorsed the campaign and elected two delegates to work with the committee. The Communist Party has been giving its full support and cooperation to the committee since the very beginning of the campaign.

The Negro people of West Oakland are proving that they have no intention of confining themselves to stores. On the contrary, in all probability the fight will extend to include the Civil Service, the utilities, and many other branches of employment.

There is great dissatisfaction over the lack of Negro personnel in various fields of employment for which Negroes are eligible, such as the Parks and Playgrounds Department, utilities companies — gas, light, water, transportation, telephone and telegraph—in banks, etc. The fact that Negroes have already had success in their fight for jobs is an incentive for more and greater victories.

FEAR SABOTAGE OF INDUSTRY BY 5TH COLUMN

Chamber of Commerce On Coast Warns Against Foreign Labor

LOS ANGELES — Moving with an amazing rapidity, in the direction of safeguarding profits and labor opportunities in American industry, for Americans, the Eastside Chamber of Commerce, through its newly-elected board of directors appointed a committee on labor and industry, to pry into the extent that American labor is being discriminated against in favor of cheap foreign or alien labor.

The district chamber which is composed of members of both races appointed the committee in order to insure the placement of Americans on jobs of vital importance to the nation in event of war. The group recognizes the poignant danger of permitting foreigners in jobs where there is danger of sabotage. Chiefly is the danger seen in the field of aviation, where little or no precautions have been taken to weed out dangerous enemies to the American government.

High point on the inquiry to be made will be to determine the extent and purpose of the widespread racial discrimination against Americans of the Race. It is this which has been the hardest hit over a period of years.

In this period of grave danger to the nation, one spokesman pointed out, anyone advocating or upholding any act tending to separate the allegiance, by unlawfully segregating any group of American citizens, or by preventing them from opportunity to enjoy the fruits of liberty by discriminatory means, is a traitor to the nation.

The committee was instructed to first conduct its probe into the aviation industry. Manufactors of both commercial and war planes will be approached regarding their attitude in cooperating with the chamber's program. To labor, likewise will be put questions regarding certain discrimination acts it practices against Americans of the Race.

Although it is the plan of the committee to probe job opportunities in every field, unskilled, skilled and professional, emphasis for the present is placed upon the inquiry into the field of skilled employment.

Cal. N.Y.A.,--

SEP 20 1940

be encountered by organized labor.

In addition to Lieut. White, LeRoy W. Ingram and Robert G. LaMar form the chamber's labor and industry committee.

The chamber of commerce committee felt that State NYA Administrator Burns tried to becloud the issue by calling members of the NYA advisory board, 10 of them Negro, into a conference at the NYA West 7th St. headquarters with th echamber representatives to form a "committee of the whole."

Among the Negroes present were Mrs. Jessie Terry, Mrs. Fay Allen and Mrs. Tarea H. Pittman, all of Oakland; Floyd Covington, names chairman, R. E. Brown, Raymond Welton of San Diego; Henry T. S. Johnson of Oakland, and Alfred Darby, all of the NYA; together with Asesmblyman Augustus H. Hawkins, and William A. Easter, supervisor of the colored division of state adult education.

First Negro Girl Lifeguard in Los Angeles Enjoys All Forms of Stopping Activities

KANSAS CITY, Kas. — (Special) —A "hometown girl who is making good" is Mildred Mills Valancia, who has been in Kansas City, Kas., since May 18, visiting with her father, Mr. Edward Mills, 715 Oakland avenue, and other relatives.

MILDRED M. VALANCIA
(—Williams Studio Photo)

Back in the late twenties, Mildred was locally famous as a star girl athlete, excelling in all lines of sports and one of the best basketball players—boy or girl—in the two Kansas Cities. Her ambition was to imitate her teacher, then Miss Frances Hayes, in physical education excellence. Because of her interest in sports, Mildred was the first—and one of the most vigorous—petitioners for Negro recreation parks in Kansas City, Kas. Her petitions signed by the late J. P. King, J. A. Hodge and J. H. Collins and presented to F. Leroy Cook, then commissioner of streets and parks, resulted in the opening of the Waterway park playground for Negroes. She was put in charge at Waterway, and the appointment of Miss LaHoma Gayden to the Tenth street park followed.

Several years ago, Mildred left Kansas City to make her home on the Pacific coast. Los Angeles was her choice. There, with her winning personality and determination to do whatever job she had well, she obtained various forms of employment before she was able to realize her ultimate goal. Her goal was to do some kind of physical education work. First, however, she was personal ladies' maid, and chauffeurette to actresses and feminine scenario writers.

It was not long, though, before she was appointed girls' instructor at the white Y. W. C. A. in Los Angeles. Her appointment as supervisor of recreation at Echo park was another step forward. But her biggest moment came when she passed a competitive examination with 24 white girls for a job as life guard. She passed the tests with the highest marks and became the first Negro girl life guard in the Angel City. Subsequently she has spent many hours instructing movie stars and other persons in swimming technique.

In the movies, she has played stunt parts many times, and has been a "native" in nearly all of the "Tarzan" pictures.

Mildred likes to tackle a hard job and conquer it. She says that she has never forgotten the last words of her mother, who said, on her deathbed, to her young daughter: "Whatever you want to do, do it well—no matter whether its cooking or housecleaning. Be the best you can be at whatever job you do."

Mildred is still the old "Light-'ning," or "Kid Light'ning" of her Kansas City high school days. She still wears her hair in a short bob with bangs, and she is more at ease in a pair of slacks or shorts than in a dress or skirt. Tennis is still her favorite sport. She has not missed a day of playing at least one game during her visit here; and she has beaten practically all comers. Bicycling, horseback riding, swimming and aqua-planing figure prominently in her other sports favorites. Barbecue is still her favorite dish, and she still likes to dance, having added jitterbugging to her repertory.—THELMA REA THURSTON.

PLANE FACTORY TO HIRE RACE

Promise Opportunity For Capable Negroes

LOS ANGELES, (ANP)—Local Negroes, especially aviation mechanics are feeling encouraged over news from Seattle that a long 12-week fight had been brought to a triumphant close last Thursday night with a flat statement by the Boeing Aircraft Co., that it would hire qualified Negroes. The following day, Friday, the company issued employment applications to two Negroes, Manual Moore and James Murphy of this city.

Boeing officials said the company would employ qualified Negroes who are members of the Aeronautical Mechanics union No. 751, with which it had a contract. Concurrently with that announcement, the union said it would take vigorous action against a clause in its constitution, limiting membership in the union to whites only. The union said the matter would have to come before the International Association of mechanics, but pointed out that no closed shop exists in the plant, nor is there a discriminatory clause in the present agreement with the company.

Charge California NYA And Aircraft Industries Bar Negro From Training

SEP 20 1940

By LAWRENCE F. LAMAR

LOS ANGELES. — The Eastside Chamber of Commerce this week laid at the desk of Governor Culbert Olson evidence that Negro youths and those of any race other than American-born white are being prevented from becoming trainees in the aircraft industry as part of the national defense program in California.

The labor and industry committee of the chamber, which has been making investigations, charges that the State Relief Administration, the NYA and aircraft corporations on the western coast are systematically barring Negroes, Jews, Mexicans and those of Portuguese extraction from participation in the defense program. The NYA has been allotted $20,000 of public funds for an educational program for youths desiring technical knowledge and training in aviation.

The committee, headed by Lieut. (Retired U.S.A.) Journee W. White, claims that it has definite evidence of a bias contract through "finding" a memorandum, an interoffice communication in the offices of the SRA, pursuant to a contract between the SRA and the NYA to provide youths for trainees in the aircraft industry.

Slip of Paper Is Clue

On the slip of paper was written, in part, "....From attached list select any of your boys who would qualify. The qualifications are: unmarried, white youths between the ages of 18 and 24, American born, preferrably of second generation in good health....."

This damaging evidence that nonwhite youths are being barred from certain aspects of defense educations under the guidance of the National Youth Administration setup, with the assistance of the State Relief Administration which uses public funds, caused the committee to lay its findings before the governor, with copies sent to both houses of the state legislative body requesting an official investigation into the situation.

The committee charges that contracts for aviation training which barred Negroes and others were entered into with the knowledge of Robert Burns, state NYA administrator, Robert Clough, E. A. Stoy, Ben O'Brien, all NYA officials; Mrs. Marie Deal, chief of the bureau of certification of SRA; William Mahu, district representative of the Los Angeles county NYA, and a Mr. Sutton; Ben Banard, in charge of the technical school; Percy Davis, superintendent of Santa Monica schools; Mr. Stone, North American Aircraft company; Tom Reed, Douglas Aircraft corporation; Sven Pederson, Lockheed company; and a representative from Vultee's.

Try To Get More Jobs

At the beginning of its investigations the committee dealt with the aircraft plants, in an effort to curb the employment ban. They reported that Douglas Aircraft company, one of the largest on the Pacific coast, failed after promises, to meet with the chamber body. Later they hired a Mr. Dunning, Negro graduate of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Stanford university, as an "aviation expert." The committee believed this job was created "as a sop to the Negro group."

After meeting with the heads of the North American Aircraft company, the committee learned that it was up against a "brick wall," as far as "crashing the employment gates" was concerned. The industry merely "passed the buck," laying the blame to a lack of technical preparedness on the part of Negro workers, and insinuating that white labor was reluctant to work with black labor. A conference check with CIO officials, brought from that direction a scathing denial, that race prejudice existed, or would

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CANADA

Sleeping Car Porter Aids Nurse In Delivering Baby

MONTREAL, Canada — A train nurse and a sleeping car porter delivered a baby from precarious perches on sleeping car ladders when the stork caught up with a Montreal-bound express Monday night.

The 23-year-old Gaspe mother-to-b left a chartered plane at Rimouski Monday night and boarded an expres train for Montreal where a hospita reservation had been made for her.

The stork caught up with th speedy train and the nurse and por ter delivered the baby. On arrival o the train in Montreal, the mother and her new-born baby were rushed to the hospital where they are doing nicely

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C.C.C.

Memphis Tenn. Com'rcial Appeal
November 20, 1940

C. C. C. BUILDINGS GO FROM HERE TO ARMY

Portable Structures Will Be Used At Oglethorpe

Movable buildings of the Shelby Negro Forest CCC camp, at the end of Mitchell Avenue, are about to become a part of the induction center for draftees at Fort Oglethorpe, Ga.

A special detachment of the Sixth Cavalry including three officers and 68 men with four reconnaisance cars, four motorcycles, 25 trailer vans and three cargo trucks will leave the fort near Chattanooga Monday, the Associated Press said last night.

They will take two barracks, a mess hall, the headquarters building and an officers quarters building. This will leave two barracks as the only buildings at the camp, where 201 negro boys are excavating the ancient Indian villages uncovered when improvements for the proposed negro forest were started.

Local officials had no notice of the move last night.

Tampa, Fla Tribune
November 6, 1940

Lakeland Negro Awarded Valor Certificate by CCC

WASHINGTON, Nov. 5.—(A.P.)—The Civilian Conservation corps announced today that its certificate of valor had been awarded Hilary E. Mears, Lakeland, Fla., the first negro to receive such recognition.

Director James J. McEntee said Mears, an enrollee in the negro CCC company at Church Point, La., was awarded the certificate for saving a boy and a girl in a flood following a hurricane last August.

Huntsville, Ala. Times
November 5, 1940

Negro CCC Youth Gets Certificate Of Valor

WASHINGTON, Nov. 4 (AP) —The Civilian Conservation Corps announced today that its certificate of valor had been awarded Hilary E. Mears, Lakeland, Fla., the first negro to receive such recognition.

Director James J. McEntee said Mears, an enrollee in the negro CCC company at Church Point, La., was awarded the certificate for saving a boy and a girl in a flood following a storm last August.

Mears, on lookout duty, dived into 18 feet of water in which there were two submerged barbed wire fences and brought the girl to safety. Reaching the shore, he discovered the boy was hanging on to the girl.

Knoxville, Tenn. News Sentinel
December 22, 1940

3138 BOYS IN STATE TO ENTER CCC CAMPS

By United Press

NASHVILLE, Dec. 21 — State Welfare Commissioner Paul Savage announced today that 3016 white boys and 122 Negro boys will be selected by the department next month for enrollment in CCC camps.

Mr. Savage said 1204 white boys will be selected on Jan. 7 for enrollment in Tennessee camps, and 1812 white boys on Jan. 13 for enrollment in camps in Washington, Oregon, California, and Nevada.

Montgomery, Ala., Advertiser
May 21, 1940

Camp Advisers Attend School

48 Fourth Corps Area C. C. C. Camps Represented

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, ALA., May 20.—The third annual training school for colored camp advisers which began here May 6, closed Saturday with appropriate exercises. Forty-eight advisers from individual Civilian Conservation Corp camps comprising the entire Fourth Corps Area which includes Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee, Louisiana, North Carolina and South Carolina were in attendance.

A varied course of instruction was offered in addition to the regular schedule including recreational activities. Outstanding educators and professional men spoke each day. Courses in tailoring, poultry raising, woodwork, removal of illiteracy, domestic service, visual education, food conservation and preparation of teaching material were offered.

Among the high lights of the school were group discussions of common problems affecting camps and enrollees, supervised tours, corps area woodworking school, display of material in visual education, demonstrations in food conservation. Certificates were awarded those who attended. The school was said to have been one of the most successful yet conducted. Robert B. Davis, district educational adviser, who was in charge, was assisted by Morris E. Milner and E. D. Wilson, Dr. Charles B. Gamble, R. L. Hood, Jr., H. R. Roberts and H. R. Halsey.

Those attending were: Norman P. Pendergrass, Haughton, La.; James R. Hall, Munford, Ala.; Samuel L. Younge, Piedmont, Ala.; William H. White, Modoc, S. C.; William B. James, Anderson, S. C.; Frederick D. Sledge, Bolton, N. C.; Andra C. Whisenton, Yanceyville, N. C.; Floyd C. Pollard, Raleigh, N. C.; William M. Parker, Newberry, S. C.; Henry A. Wilson, Linden, Ala.; Bright Keith, Jr., Mt. Olive, Miss.; William L. Dunn, Burlington, N. C.; Vincent D. White, Bee Ridge, Fla.; Grady Farley, Citronelle, Ala.; John T. Fagan, Americus, Ga.; Thomas J. Crittenden, DeLeon Spring, Fla.; John Q. Jefferson, Hardeeville, S. C.; F. W. Winbush, Church Point, La.; John C. Elder, Pittsburg Landing, Tenn.; B. H. Thornton, Forest City, N. C.; Andrew J. Foster, Burns, Tenn.; Alphonso A. Barron, Perry, Ga.; William A. Brooks, Folkston, Ga.; Leonard P. Taylor, Jesup, Ga.; William H. Payne, Forest, Miss.; Prince O. Wailes, Utica, Miss.; Robert J. Smith, East Chattanooga, Tenn.; Douglas W. Greene, Saluda, S. C.; Francis I. Long, Wewahitchka, Fla.; Frank B. Kelley, Collierville, Tenn.; William E. Lightfoote, Tallahassee, Fla.; J. L. Eason, Durham, N. C.; and C. S. Ross, Royston, Ga.

CCC Advisers In Fine Conference

Daily World

TUSKEGEE—(By D. Minor Coke for ANP) The fourth annual training school for CCC educational advisers of the Fourth Corps area was held from May 6 to May 18 at Tuskegee Institute.

Forty-eight advisers from individual CCC camps, comprising the entire Fourth Corps area of Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee, Louisiana, North and South Carolina, Florida and Georgia represented by Districts A, B, C, D, E, and I, were in attendance.

A varied program was offered in addition to the regular schedule with these in attendance receiving the benefit of facilities of the institute surrounding territory and lectures from outstanding educators and professional men. Courses being offered included tailoring, poultry raising, woodworking, removal of illiteracy, domestic service, visual education, food conservation and preparation of teaching material.

CCC Advisers Hold 4th Meeting At Tuskegee

Journal & Guide

TUSKEGEE — (ANP) — The fourth annual training school for CCC educational advisers of the Fourth Corps area was held from May 6 to May 18 at Tuskegee Institute.

48 CCC HEADS ATTEND CONFAB AT TUSKEGEE

Chicago Bee

TUSKEGEE, May 23 — The fourth annual training school for CCC educational advisers of the Fourth Corps area was held last week at Tuskegee Institute.

Forty-eight advisers from individual CCC camps, comprising the entire Fourth Corps area of Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee, North and South Carolina and Florida and Georgia, represented by Districts A, B, C, D, E, and I, were in attendance.

A varied program was offered in addition to the regular schedule with these in attendance receiving the benefit of facilities of the institute, surrounding territory and lectures from outstanding educators and professional men. Courses being offered included tailoring, poultry raising, woodworking, removal of illiteracy, domestic service, visual education, food conservation and preparation of teaching material.

Among highlights of the school were group discussions of common problems affecting camps and enrolles, supervised tours, corps area woodworking school, display of materials in visual education, demonstrations in food conservation and awards to be given for work done. These awards were certificates for the CCC instructors.

New England Labor Backs Negroes for Jobs

Connecticut L.N.P.L. Demands End to Discrimination; Asks Jobs for Negroes in Utilities, Elsewhere

(Special to the Daily Worker)

NEW HAVEN, June 10.—Labor's demands for the ending of discrimination against Negroes in this state have been forwarded to the commission recently appointed by Gov. Calvin J. Sutherlin to study the "Problems Concerning the Employment of Negroes in Connecticut" by Labor's Non-Partisan League.

Jobs in utilities, creation of scholarships for Negro youth and an increased penalty for violation of the state law on discrimination are the three points raised in the League's letter to Sutherlin. Copies have also been sent to each member of the commission. The letter says:

TEXT OF LETTER

"Labor's Non-Partisan League of Connecticut is vitally interested in the problems of employment for all sections of the population, and since there is discrimination against our colored brothers, in the problems of employment for Negroes in Connecticut we therefore take this opportunity to put before you for consideration three suggestions.

"1. The State ought to set an example through agencies with which it deals, of representation of all races. Therefore, may we urge that your Commission work actively for a change in the law with regard to public utilities. **We urge that where utilities are concerned the state enact a provision to the effect that at least 2 per cent of those employed by utilities hold a franchise, be from the colored race.** This we feel will help to end discrimination against Negroes on the jobs available in the public utilities.

"2. There are now no Negroes in Connecticut State University, we are told. **In order to train young people of the Negro race for a rightful place in the community and industry, we urge that 15 scholarships be provided at State expense, for Negro young people at Connecticut State University.** We further ask that equal opportunities in the trade schools be given Negro youth, to the end that they may have the opportunity to get jobs in industry which are rightfully due them.

"3. **Finally, we ask that the Statute on discrimination be changed so that a minimum penalty of $100 for violations be set for offenders.** This, we feel, will help to clear the air of discriminatory practices which result in job discrimination against our colored people."

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D.C.

POSTAL

DEC 28 1940

A branch office at 1011 U street, northwest, manned and operated by an all-colored staff, was the Christmas present extended Washingtonians on Dec. 19 by the Postal Telegraph Company.

Seen above as the contract to open the office was signed are: Left to right: George W. Goodman, executive secretary of the Washington Urban League; John D. Brittingham, Postal Telegraph official signing on the dotted line and Hosea Lindsey, named office manager. The Courier's present office in Washington is located in the same building.

Women Pull 700-P
Civic Federation is

Reputed unfair working conditions imposed upon colored women in many government departments and local institutions, also representation on the staff of the Southwest Health Center were among major questions discussed at the monthly meeting of the Federation of Civic Associations in the District Building, Friday.

The plight of the domestic worker was also considered and Mrs. Edna W. Payton, chairman of the social welfare committee distributed questionnaires to representatives present to assist in compiling data concerning the economic situation of the domestics.

The assistance of the American Federation of Government Employees has been enlisted to bring about improvement of the conditions of government workers, it was revealed by correspondence read to the association by Kenneth H. Carter, corresponding secretary.

A letter to James H. Burns, president of the Government Employees' Federation, related that investigation of numerous complaints that these workers "had to perform duties far beyond their physical endurance" were proved true.

Mt. Alto Named

The correspondence stated further:

"An unsuccessful attempt was made to obtain a satisfactory statement from the management of the Mt. Alto Hospital, where it is alleged that female employees appointed under the classification of maids' attendants are often required to pull trucks laden with supplies weighing up to 700 pounds . . . and work longer than eight hours," contrary to civil service regulations.

Mr. Burns, in response, asserted that efforts were being made to rectify certain conditions and that reports of progress would be made.

The Federation asked for at least a colored physician, a dentist and a nurse to be mong the personnel at the Southwest Health Center and that such representation be assigned until appropriations for the staff are made.

Oppose Separate Armory

Following remarks by the president, Charles M. Thomas, the federation opposed a separate colored armory, said to be proposed by the National Guard heads, and directed further protest of any proposals for separation of National Guard armories because of race.

Publication of financial reports compiled by the board of education of moneys collected from children in public schools for extra-curricular activities and the purpose for which such moneys are used, was also requested by the federation. The information is sought to disclose amounts contributed by various groups to augment appropriations for free education in the District, it was stated.

Certificate Awarded

The Midway Civic Association was awarded a certificate of merit by the federation for outstanding work. For individual activity, a silver cup was awarded to George Johnson, president of the Midway Association. The presentations will be made at the Morgan School, June 6, at 7:30 p.m.

Mr. Thomas told of a recent conference between civic leaders and Senator King, chairman of the Senate District Committee. The Senator is reported to have bared numerous complaints against the race for its alleged delinquencies.

Leaders' Responsibilities

The federation president emphasized the frustations of hopes and curtailment of the Negroes' activities in the District because of racial prejudice. However, he charged the leaders with the responsibility of improving the race's faults and dispelling the notion that it is a social burden.

Dr. E. F. Harris, president of the Lincoln Association and vice-president of the Federation, assisted in presiding.

Letters to The Tribune

Cites WPA Discrimination In District Project

To the Tribune Editor:

I had the opportunity this week to visit some of the WPA projects in the District of Columbia.

The one that gave me most concern was the Household Training Project. I was told by one of the guides (white) who is one of the supervisors of several such projects, that this project has a white supervisor because "they had looked very carefully and had not been able to find a colored woman with the necessary qualifications for the position as supervisor."

I wanted to find out just what thees extraordinary qualifications were for training some 40 girls to do domestic work in three buildings. I found from the supervisor, herself, that she had a bachelor's degree in home economics, is working on a master's and some 14 years experience in teaching demonstrating and in working with farm security.

Most of the Negro women that I know have had about 300 years background and experience in doing domestic work. Hundreds of Negro women have bechelor's degrees in domestic science, any number have master's degrees and scores are working toward them.

As far as experience is concerned very few Negro women have escaped having worked as a domestic or nursemaid for some period of time, if only in summer during vacation. Furthermore, I am of the opinion that in professional experience the law of diminishing returns begins to operate after about 5 years.

Furthermore, I know that several Negro women with training and experience equal to the present supervisor were submitted to D. C. WPA Dictator Paul Edwards.

How long will America yell about democracy and the preservation of democracy and fail to practice it on one-tenth of her population. Any democracy is threatened when large numbers of its population are without the benefits of that democracy.

MRS. THOMASINA JOHNSON,
Alpha Kappa Alpha Council on Public Affairs.

Valet Objects to Reference To Wallace as 'Shabby' Man

Secretary Is as 'Well Dressed as President Roosevelt,' Servant Says; Blames Sartorial Faults on Exercise

Whoever said a man is no hero to his valet hasn't talked to Edward Crockett, colored, the man who makes Secretary of Agriculture Henry A. Wallace as "well dressed as President Roosevelt."

Crockett, messenger to every Agriculture Secretary since 1913, and who is so proud of the Secretary that he goes on his own time to see to Wallace's wardrobe, read yesterday that the Secretary has some fine traits, but dresses "shabbily."

Crockett grabbed a telephone and was a little incoherent at first, but it amounted to this:

"I know there's not a better-dressed man in Washington. No man's got a finer wardrobe or looks better in his clothes. He changes his clothes every day.

"I'll bet he's got as good a wardrobe as the President," he ventured.

Crockett said he never had heard of such talk; that he was speaking because all morning people got after him, asked him why he let the Secretary look shabby.

The only explanation for such a rumor he could conceive was that the Secretary liked to walk to work, or go out in the mornings for exercise. "He likes his walks and that game he plays with a boomerang, and if a little rain comes up and wets his clothes he's not thinking about any clothes. He keeps his mind on his exercise. He just naturally likes his exercise, Crockett said.

"I'm proud of the Secretary. People reading that thing and getting after me.

"I'm saying now how it is. He's got a wardrobe!" he concluded, emphatically.

WPA Defense Employment Register To Show Potential Skills Of More Than 2,500,000

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The work records of more than 2,500,000 persons on or awaiting assignment to WPA rolls will be combed during the next six weeks for skills and potential skills which can be turned to productive channels in defense industries, Colonel F. C. Harrington, Work Projects Commissioner, announced Wednesday.

Instructions have been sent all State WPA Administrators to proceed at once with the establishment of a uniform Defense Industries Employment Register which will show for each WPA worker, as well as the 1,000,000 or more on WPA waiting lists, either the skills at which they are proficient or for which they can be trained. Workers already qualified are, of course, available for immediate employment, Colonel Harrington explained. Those requiring additional training are subject to enrollment in the special vocational training courses now being offered cooperatively by WPA, the Office of Education and the Defense Advisory Commission.

"This register probably will be one of the most accurate indexes of available skills on record," Commissioner Harrington declared. "We have not only the voluntary statements of the more than 2,500,000 persons on or awaiting assignment to our rolls as to the kind of work they can do. We have in addition the actual performance records of approximately 1,700,000 workers currently employed on W. P. A. projects. We know from actual experience whether they are good mechanics, carpenters or laborers, and to what extent they might be improved with training.

"The Defense Industries Employment Register will show for each state the number of persons either qualified or potentially qualified for a wide variety of industrial occupations which the Defense Advisory Commission deems important to national defense. Where a shortage of certain types of skills appears likely, arrangements can be came through the vocational training program to give special training in these fields. Our register will be an important guide in the selection of the best type of workers to take these training courses."

To Indicate Fitness

Determination of fitness to be placed on the register will be made, Colonel Harrington explained, from work history data already on file for each person on WPA rolls or certified and awaiting assignment to a WPA job. Where additional information is necessary, this individual worker or his project supervisor will be interviewed personally. In addition to bonafide employment in private industry, enrollment in the training program is optional, the Commissioner pointed out. In fact, he stated, the willingness and interest of the prospective trainee will be the factor considered in making

Women Pull 700-P
Civic Federation is

Reputed unfair working conditions imposed upon colored women in many government departments and local institutions, also representation on the staff of the Southwest Health Center were among major questions discussed at the monthly meeting of the Federation of Civic Associations in the District Building, Friday.

The plight of the domestic worker was also considered and Mrs. Edna W. Payton, chairman of the social welfare committee distributed questionnaires to representatives present to assist in compiling data concerning the economic situation of the domestics.

The assistance of the American Federation of Government Employees has been enlisted to bring about improvement of the conditions of government workers, it was revealed by correspondence read to the association by Kenneth H. Carter, corresponding secretary.

A letter to James H. Burns, president of the Government Employees' Federation, related that investigation of numerous complaints that these workers "had to perform duties far beyond their physical endurance" were proved true.

Mt. Alto Named

The correspondence stated further:

"An unsuccessful attempt was made to obtain a satisfactory statement from the management of the Mt. Alto Hospital, where it is alleged that female employees appointed under the classification of maids' attendants are often required to pull trucks laden with supplies weighing up to 700 pounds . . . and work longer than eight hours," contrary to civil service regulations.

Mr. Burns, in response, asserted that efforts were being made to rectify certain conditions and that reports of progress would be made.

The Federation asked for at least a colored physician, a dentist and a nurse to be mong the personnel at the Southwest Health Center and that such representation be assigned until appropriations for the staff are made.

Oppose Separate Armory

Following remarks by the president, Charles M. Thomas, the federation opposed a separate colored armory, said to be proposed by the National Guard heads, and directed further protest of any proposals for separation of National Guard armories because of race.

Publication of financial reports compiled by the board of education of moneys collected from children in public schools for extra-curricular activities and the purpose for which such moneys are used, was also requested by the federation. The information is sought to disclose amounts contributed by various groups to augment appropriations for free education in the District, it was stated.

Certificate Awarded

The Midway Civic Association was awarded a certificate of merit by the federation for outstanding work. For individual activity, a silver cup was awarded to George Johnson, president of the Midway Association. The presentations will be made at the Morgan School, June 6, at 7:30 p.m.

Mr. Thomas told of a recent conference between civic leaders and Senator King, chairman of the Senate District Committee. The Senator is reported to have bared numerous complaints against the race for its alleged delinquencies.

Leaders' Responsibilities

The federation president emphasized the frustations of hopes and curtailment of the Negroes' activities in the District because of racial prejudice. However, he charged the leaders with the responsibility of improving the race's faults and dispelling the notion that it is a social burden.

Dr. E. F. Harris, president of the Lincoln Association and vice-president of the Federation, assisted in presiding.

Letters to The Tribune

Cites WPA Discrimination In District Project

To the Tribune Editor:

I had the opportunity this week to visit some of the WPA projects in the District of Columbia.

The one that gave me most concern was the Household Training Project. I was told by one of the guides (white) who is one of the supervisors of several such projects, that this project has a white supervisor because "they had looked very carefully and had not been able to find a colored woman with the necessary qualifications for the position as supervisor."

I wanted to find out just what thees extraordinary qualifications were for training some 40 girls to do domestic work in three buildings. I found from the supervisor, herself, that she had a bachelor's degree in home economics, is working on a master's and some 14 years experience in teaching demonstrating and in working with farm security.

Most of the Negro women that I know have had about 300 years background and experience in doing domestic work. Hundreds of Negro women have bechelor's degrees in domestic science, any number have master's degrees and scores are working toward them.

As far as experience is concerned very few Negro women have escaped having worked as a domestic or nursemaid for some period of time, if only in summer during vacation. Furthermore, I am of the opinion that in professional experience the law of diminishing returns begins to operate after about 5 years.

Furthermore, I know that several Negro women with training and experience equal to the present supervisor were submitted to D. C. WPA Dictator Paul Edwards.

How long will America yell about democracy and the preservation of democracy and fail to practice it on one-tenth of her population. Any democracy is threatened when large numbers of its population are without the benefits of that democracy.

MRS. THOMASINA JOHNSON,
Alpha Kappa Alpha Council on Public Affairs.

Valet Objects to Reference To Wallace as 'Shabby' Man

Secretary Is as 'Well Dressed as President Roosevelt,' Servant Says; Blames Sartorial Faults on Exercise

Whoever said a man is no hero to his valet hasn't talked to Edward Crockett, colored, the man who makes Secretary of Agriculture Henry A. Wallace as "well dressed as President Roosevelt."

Crockett, messenger to every Agriculture Secretary since 1913, and who is so proud of the Secretary that he goes on his own time to see to Wallace's wardrobe, read yesterday that the Secretary has some fine traits, but dresses "shabbily."

Crockett grabbed a telephone and was a little incoherent at first, but it amounted to this:

"I know there's not a better-dressed man in Washington. No man's got a finer wardrobe or looks better in his clothes. He changes his clothes every day.

"I'll bet he's got as good a wardrobe as the President," he ventured.

Crockett said he never had heard of such talk; that he was speaking because all morning people got after him, asked him why he let the Secretary look shabby.

The only explanation for such a rumor he could conceive was that the Secretary liked to walk to work, or go out in the mornings for exercise. "He likes his walks and that game he plays with a boomerang, and if a little rain comes up and wets his clothes he's not thinking about any clothes. He keeps his mind on his exercise. He just naturally likes his exercise, Crockett said.

"I'm proud of the Secretary. People reading that thing and getting after me.

"I'm saying now how it is. He's got a wardrobe!" he concluded, emphatically.

WPA Defense Employment Register To Show Potential Skills Of More Than 2,500,000

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The work records of more than 2,500,000 persons on or awaiting assignment to WPA rolls will be combed during the next six weeks for skills and potential skills which can be turned to productive channels in defense industries, Colonel F. C. Harrington, Work Projects Commissioner, announced Wednesday.

Instructions have been sent all State WPA Administrators to proceed at once with the establishment of a uniform Defense Industries Employment Register which will show for each WPA worker, as well as the 1,000,000 or more on WPA waiting lists, either the skills at which they are proficient or for which they can be trained. Workers already qualified are, of course, available for immediate employment, Colonel Harrington explained. Those requiring additional training are subject to enrollment in the special vocational training courses now being offered cooperatively by WPA, the Office of Education and the Defense Advisory Commission.

"This register probably will be one of the most accurate indexes of available skills on record," Commissioner Harrington declared. "We have not only the voluntary statements of the more than 2,500,000 persons on or awaiting assignment to our rolls as to the kind of work they can do. We have in addition the actual performance records of approximately 1,700,000 workers currently employed on W. P. A. projects. We know from actual experience whether they are good mechanics, carpenters or laborers, and to what extent they might be improved with training.

"The Defense Industries Employment Register will show for each state the number of persons either qualified or potentially qualified for a wide variety of industrial occupations which the Defense Advisory Commission deems important to national defense. Where a shortage of certain types of skills appears likely, arrangements can be came through the vocational training program to give special training in these fields. Our register will be an important guide in the selection of the best type of workers to take these training courses."

To Indicate Fitness

Determination of fitness to be considered under the law to accept offers of employment in private industry, enrollment in the training program is optional, the Commissioner pointed out. In fact, he pointed out, the willingness and interest of prospective trainee will be the individual worker or his prospective employer considered in making placed on the register will be interviewed personally. In addition, existing skill and experience, education and training, manual dexterity and familiarity with machines and tools, and hobbies or avocations related to the proposed training.

Individual cards will be prepared for each WPA worker showing the trades and industries in which they have been employed, from work history data already on file for each person on WPA rolls or certified and awaiting assignment to a WPA job. Where additional information is necessary, the prospective trainee will be the first factor

In his instructions to State WPA Administrations, Colonel Harrington included a list of more than 130 individual occupations which have been designated by the Defense Advisory Commission as important to the defense program. The Defense Industries Employment Register will, for the time being, be confined to persons suited to these occupations. The list of occupations will be supplemented from time to time, he said, as demands in the labor supply fluctuate.

In the top picture, Secretary of Agriculture Henry A. Wallace, on behalf of the colored employes of the department, presents a watch to Walter H. Carter, retiring after more than 33 years in the office of the Secretary, U. S. Department of Agriculture.

Below: After the presentation, the group said goodbye to Secretary Wallace. It was his last day in office. Left to right are: Walter H. Carter, retired; William H. Fitzhugh, mail and files section; William E. Weir budget section; Burrell T. Brown, bureau of dairy industry; Vernice E. Sparkman, agriculture group; Joseph Selden, bureau of animal industry; Raymond J Weir, budget section; Lottie Brown, bureau of plant industry; Rudolph Stewart, office of information; Etta Pillars, agriculture group; James R. McIver, farm security administration; Henry A. Wallace.—U.S.D.A. photo by Purdy.

MARY ANDERSON

servility and inferiority as much as because of the insecurity of a living dependent upon tips," Miss Gilson said. "But the tipping custom corrupts the character of the tipped as much as the tipped. It gives him a sense of superiority and prestige derived from undemocratic origins."

Ban Tipping, Mary Anderson Urges Labor Legislation Group

Washington Post
Washington, D.C.

U. S. Women's Bureau Head Says Practice Is 'Unwholesome'

By the Associated Press

DEC 29 1940

Chicago, Dec. 28.—Abolition of tipping was urged today by Mary Anderson, director of the United States Women's Bureau, in an address in which she described the practice as "unwholesome and undemocratic."

She made the recommendation before the annual meeting of the American Association for Labor Legislation.

"We know," she asserted, "that irregularity of employment is one of the great hardships that confront all wage earners. But for workers who rely partly or entirely upon tips for their compensation, the problem of uncertain income is many times more serious."

Speaking on the same subject, Mary Barnett Gilson, assistant professor of economics at the University of Chicago, said that the person tipped objected to being tipped, that the custom "corrupts the character" of the tipper, and added that "we should consistently refuse to recognize it as a part of wages."

"The tipped with whom I have talked, and I have talked with many, tell me they object to being tipped because of the implication of

Employment In Census

Washington is a city without vote. Some residents vote "back home" or have relatives who do. Occasionally the "folks back home" take a keen interest in the affairs of the national capital. Sometimes local legislation is passed or defeated by this method of remote control. Sometimes this sentiment "down home" has affected the employment in Washington of colored people who have qualified under civil service.

We recall the Democratic policy during World War days when the city teemed with incompetent white clerks, typists and stenographers from the South. Today under the New Deal, similar Democratic sentiment "down home" seems to have been a factor in reduced employment of Negroes in government bureaus in the capital. There are agencies where colored applicants are boldly told by those whose salaries are paid by public taxes, "Colored are not hired here."

Some months ago a news story was the apparent source of a rumor that few places were to be given to colored people in the work of the 1940 census. The recent admission of sixty applicants to the training classes for census enumerators seemed to belie that report. But, when one-third of them were not given assignments on April 2, the rumor was revived. It was unfortunate that somebody's lack of tact in making the census-enumerator appointments provoked the charge of discrimination. By the end of last week, however, the District census manager had assigned all who qualified to take the census. Two or three were made squad leaders, and some have received clerkships at enumeration headquarters. So an unfortunate incident came to a happy end.

These appointments are no departure from the policy of Director Austin of the Census Bureau, who realizes the worth of trained colored personnel and has been known to seek colored employees in preference to white because of the superior records of colored units. In 1920 when card-punching began to lag, by Mr. Austin's order an additional 100 card-punchers were hired. For once the tables were turned; white women were not even permitted to apply despite any civil service status, and every place was taken by a colored applicant.

Mr. Austin has always seemed more interested in getting a tremendous task well done than in barring applicants because of color. It is doubtful if any other government bureau has had a more liberal policy for as many years as the Census Bureau of the Department of Commerce.

Two Promoted to Supervisors in Post Office

WASHINGTON.

An old Washington Post Office tradition was broken, last week, as A. R. Ore and B. F. Cotman, two senior clerks in the Washington Terminal Railway Post Office, were promoted to the posts of supervisors.

Although there have been colored supervisors in post offices in other sections of the country for a number of years, last week's promotions marked the first such in the local terminal.

Promotions Opposed

Ambrose O'Connell, second assistant postmaster general, and John D. Hardy, general superintendent of railway mail service, were instrumental in the granting of the promotions, although it was said that the chief clerk and division superintendent of the office refused to recommend them.

The promotions came at the instigation of the National Alliance of Postal Employees, which has worked for a number of years to end discrimination in the granting of promotions in various sections of the country.

It reports that there are now more than forty colored workers holding supervisory positions in offices throughout the country.

Thomas E. Bomar is national secretary of the alliance and personally carried on the fight.

GROUPS TO HOLD RALLY TO FIGHT D. C. STARVATION

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt will be principal speaker, Thursday night, May 16, at a mass rally to fight starvation in Washington. The meeting will be held at 8 o'clock at the Zion Baptist Church, 337 F Street, Southwest.

Estimates of the Council of Social Agencies indicate that 7,865 Washingtonians are starving, in need of employment but unable to find it. The 1940-41 District supply bill is scheduled for debate in the House early next week.

Other speakers on the program will be Sidney Katz, secretary-treasurer of the Maryland and District of Columbia CIO; David Lasser, national president of the Workers Alliance; the Rev. Arthur D. Gray, chairman of the Washington Council, National Negro Congress; Howard Ennis, chairman of the Washington Youth Council; Margaret Buffum, president of the Women's Trade Union League, and Robert Robinson, vice-president of the D.C. Workers' Alliance.

NEW POST OFFICE STATION IN D. C. HEADED BY NEGRO

SEP 2 0 1940

Kansas City Kansas

WASHINGTON. (ANP).—Naming Benjamin R. Johnson superintendent of the new Mid-City postoffice located at 1709 T street, N. W., Postmaster Vincent Burke establishes a precedent in the capital city, since Mr. Johnson is the first Negro to hold such a post in the vast network of postal stations in the city.

Opening on October 1, the station will supplant the old station located on You street, and the entire personnel of the new plant will be colored. This means that there will be Negroes at the stamp windows, the money order windows and the postal savings account department.

Already Mr. Johnson has been ordered to the You street station to familiarize himself with the duties which will be his on the opening of the new sub-station. Other clerks will also be so assigned in a few days.

The new station will take the place of the You street office which will be dismantled, all of the present clerks and carriers going to other stations. This step gives Negroes an opportunity for jobs which the National Alliance of Postal Employes has fought for since 1936 when G. N. T. Gray, welfare officer, wrote Postmaster General James A. Farley at the time of the death of a superintendent which created a vacancy in the service and at that pay rate, $2700 per annum.

Later a committee, Dean Hastie, Major Campbell Johnson, Capt. Eugene Davidson, George Goodman of the Washington Urban league and Gertrude Stone of the N.A.A.C.P., visited with Postmaster Burke and made a request for a colored supervisor when the new station was completed. However, the entire personnel will be colored, thereby placing Negroes in more responsible positions than they had hitherto enjoyed.

Seeks Naming of Negro To Library Board

DEC 7 1940

The Washington Council of the National Negro Congress held its regular monthly meeting at the Twelfth Street YMCA on December 2. The Rev. Arthur D. Gray, chairman of the council presided and presented Oliver Palmer, president of the United Cafeteria Employees, Local 471, as the guest speaker.

Mr. Palmer, who was a delegate to the recent CIO convention held in Atlantic City, gave the Council a detailed summary of the convention and brought out many important things which the daily papers of the country failed to print.

Washington, D.C.

The Council went on record as favoring the appointment of a Negro to fill the vacancy existing on the District Library Board and instructed its Civic Affairs Committee, of which Doxey Wilkerson of Howard University is chairman, to draw up a resolution to that effect and to send the resolution to the proper authorities.

As a part of its December program the council has announced a benefit for the evening of December 21 to be held at the Mu-So-Lit

Washington Sepias Get Telegraph Office In Section

Negro Labor News Houston Texas

DEC 2 8 1940

WASHINGTON, D. C. —(ANP)— Eighteen months hard work has resulted in the opening of a Postal Telegraph station in Washington's colored section adjacent to the heart of the business area at 11th and You streets. The new station is credited to work accomplished by George W. Goodman of the Washington Urban League and Hosea Lindsay.

Hosea Lindsay, who will be in charge of this office, came to Washington about a year ago from Akron, O., where he filed several jobs in a capable manner.

However, on his arrival in the district, he quickly sensed the need for an office of this kind in the neighborhood so he went to work with Goodman, who had a compilation of statistics necessary to present the officials of the Postal Company.

The entire personnel of the new local office will be colored, it is said.

D. C. TELEGRAPH OFFICE HAS ALL-COLORED STAFF

Courier

DEC 2 8 1940 Pittsburgh Pa.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 26—December 19 marked the official opening of a branch office of the Postal Telegraph Company at 1011 U Street, Northwest, manned and operated by an all-colored staff.

Hosea Lindsey, who first got his taste of the business in Akron, Ohio, years ago, is the office manager. After spending some time in the telegraph field, he decided that Washington was the place where he could realize his ambitions.

After looking over the field here, Mr. Lindsey sought the assistance of the Washington Urban League through its executive secretary, George W. Goodman.

In measuring work possibilities of Negroes in Washington, the league has assembled information on the colored population concentration in the Northwest section, attending information concerning their businesses, and the distribution of telegraph offices.

PRESENTS DATA

Armed with a base map indicating these features, Mr. Lindsey descended upon the local telegraph officials and presented his credentials. The officials were impressed and forwarded the information to New York City, where the main office confirmed the project.

On December 16, in the presence of Mrs. Geneva Valentine, realtor, who has charge of the building, and Mr. Goodman, the telegraph official, John D. Brittingham, white, and Mr. Lindsey signed the contract to open the office.

The uniformed messenger is Chester Plummer, 18, of 2114 N Street, Northwest. Chester is a graduate of the Central Commercial High School, 424 E. Forty-second Street, New York City. He has been here since September, however. He lived in the District 12 years prior to that time.

Gets Library Promotion

DEC 2 8 1940

Amsterdam News New York, N.Y.

CONGRATULATIONS are in order for Mrs. Dorothy Robinson Homer, who is pictured above with her two-year-old son, Theodore Homer, III. She's now a first assistant in the New York Public Library system.

Mrs. Homer is the wife of Theodore Homer, Jr., a pharmacist at the Heights Drug Store, 145th Street and St. Nicholas Ave. The couple's fifteenth wedidng anniversary was celebrated on Christmas Eve in Washington, D. C., at the home of Mrs. Homer's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Harry G. Robinson, of 2714 Georgia Ave., N.W. Mrs. Homer reports to her job here on January 2, 1941.

The holder of a bachelor of arts degree from Howard "U", '25 and a bachelor of science degree in library science from Columbia "U", '33, Mrs. Homer has been a librarian since 1933, when she joined the Washington system.

Blind Matron Heads Oldest Job Agency

SEP 28 1940

BY RUBY JENKINS

WILMINGTON, Del. — Mrs. Susan R. Rouselle, manager of the oldest and one of the most efficient employment agencies in the city, has been blind for twenty years.

In full defiance of what most people consider a dreaded handicap, she has dared to succeed and attributes her achievements wholly to her unquestionably trusting faith in God.

Mrs. Rouselle, pleasantly congenial and entirely at ease, sat in her comfortable living room at 707 Poplar Street, and talked freely of her 17-year-old business, her family and herself.

Was Ardent Embroiderer

Blinded by too strenuous use of her eyes for the embroidery work she once taught, Mrs. Rouselle selected her present occupation on the suggestion of a sister, who was visiting from New York and noted how well she used the telephone.

What was once an uncertain experiment quickly developed into a flourishing profession.

Native of Virginia

Mrs. Rouselle, her sister, and her brother, who lives in Santa Barbara, Calif., were born in Alexandria, Va., where they received their elementary education. Two of her five children were born in New York, where she lived for a short while after marrying Maurice Rouselle, now an assistant foreman at the Pullman plant.

Homesickness, however, drew her south again, and the children, three of them are boys, were sent to school in Richmond, where she later attended evening classes at the Armstrong High School. She has lived in Wilmington for twenty-four years.

Exposer Of Jim-Crow In Job Center Reinstated

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Henry S. McAlpin, Allegedly Dismissed for Trying to Enlarge Work Opportunities, Back on Job.

NOV 2 1940

WASHINGTON, D. C., Oct. 31—Harry S. McAlpin, dismissed in July with an "unsatisfactory" rating from his post as supervising interviewer at the District Employment Center, was last week ordered temporarily reinstated by Federal Security Administrator Paul V. McNutt, pending a personal review of the case, and is now back on the job.

The dismissal was protested originally by various organizations, including: Washington Urban League, the N. A. A. C. P., National Negro Congress, and the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance.

Protests were based on the assumption that Mr. McAlpin was dismissed because he attempted to enlarge work opportunities for colored job-seekers. He was summarily discharged from the $2,300 a year position by Edwin Jones, director of the center, shortly after informing civic associations of an order requesting 300 "white" Civil Service employees.

MAJORITY DISREGARDED

A special committee took six days to hear testimony in an appeal made by Mr. McAlpin, then deliberated six weeks, finally rendering a majority decision favoring his reinstatement.

Oscar M. Powell, executive director of the Social Security Board, disregarded the decision and ordered the unsatisfactory rating and dismissal to stand. This act was protested to Administrator McNutt last week by two delegations.

Mr. McNutt, who left shortly afterward with the President, promised an impartial review. The question of the legality of the reinstatement prior to a final decision was referred to the office of the general counsel of the Social Security Board.

Librarian Employs 2 Women

Philadelphia Tribune
Philadelphia

Mrs. Margaret Hunton, Mrs. Ethel R. Williams On Staff

Pa.
NOV 2 8 1940

WASHINGTON, (ANP)—The Library of Congress has opened its cloistered doors to Negro professional employes. For the first time in the history of this institution, under the administration of the new librarian, Archibald MacLeish, two trained professionals have received appointments. Mrs. Margaret Reynolds Hunton and Mrs. Ethel R. Williams are now part of the staff in the processing division.

While Mr. MacLeish is to be commended for this move in the direction of more democratic administration of a tax supported institution, not a little of the credit for the inequalities of the situation in the library is due to the activity of numerous organizations and individuals working over a period of several years. These include the National Negro Congress, NAACP, the Pleasant Plains Civic Association; United Federal Workers of America, Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, Dr. William Thompkins, recorder of deeds; Joseph A. Evans, NYA; and Walter G. Daniel, librarian of Howard university. It is generally regretted, however, that no Negroes are as yet employed in similar capacity in the public libraries of the District of Columbia.

HOWARD GRADUATE

Mrs. Hunton, the wife of Dr. W A. Hunton of Howard University and the daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Dexter Reynolds of Chicago, is a graduate of Howard and of Syracuse University School of Library Science, where she was a Rosenwald fellow for three years. She also finished the Chicago Library Training class, and is now working on an M. A. degree. She brings a wide variety of experience to her new position, having worked in the Chicago Public library, the Fisk University library, Miner Teachers' College library, the U. S. Office of Education as a bibliographer and with the American Youth Commission.

Mrs. Hunton is the first Negro member of Pi Lambda Sigma, honorary library fraternity. She is also a member of the American Library association, is president of the Columbia Civic Library Association and secretary of the Washington chapter of the Progressive Librarians' Council.

Mrs. Williams is a graduate of Howard and Columbia University Library School. She has had several months experience in Howard library.

LAUD NEGRO-MANAGED BRANCH OF TABLE SUPPLY STORES SYSTEM

NOV 16 1940

The management of the Table Supply Stores, with main offices at 1410 Seventh Street, is receiving the praise of the city because of the opening of an all-colored manned store at 2007 Fourteenth Street, Northwest.

The management was not asked by any association, nor was it the victim of a picket. Due to the fact that 97 per cent of the trade was colored it thought that the management of the store should be turned over to Negroes.

A very efficent staff of clerks greets one on his entrance to the store. The store is one of the best of its kind in the city and enjoys a patronage that is a credit to any store. The demeanor of the clerks serves to make the business better.

There are five persons employed in the store. Douglas Haig Williams is the manager. He has been with the company for three years. He began as a truck driver and because of his efficiency was promoted continously until given the post that he now holds. Mr. Williams attributes his success as an employee of the company to the fact that actual eperience means more than theory.

He is a graduate of the Dunbar school and has had nine years of grocery experience. He was born in Washington.

Had Seven Years

John Davis is the manager of the meat department. He has spent seven years with the company. Charles Boyd is the vegetable clerk. Harry Green is the butcher. Lawrence Jones is the meat clerk. Henry Hill is the groceryman.

Mr. Williams told the Washington Tribune that the store had the support of the local branch of the NAACP and quite a few other civic groups. It is to be remembered that the New Negro Alliance started a drive sometime ago for Negroes to clerk in stores where they spend their money. This is the only store that has an entire Negro personnel.

The management attempted this as an experiment. It has proved so successful until it plans to place Negro stores in all Negro neighborhoods.

FIRST NEGRO PROFESSIONAL LIBRARIANS TO POSITIONS IN LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

NOV 29 1940

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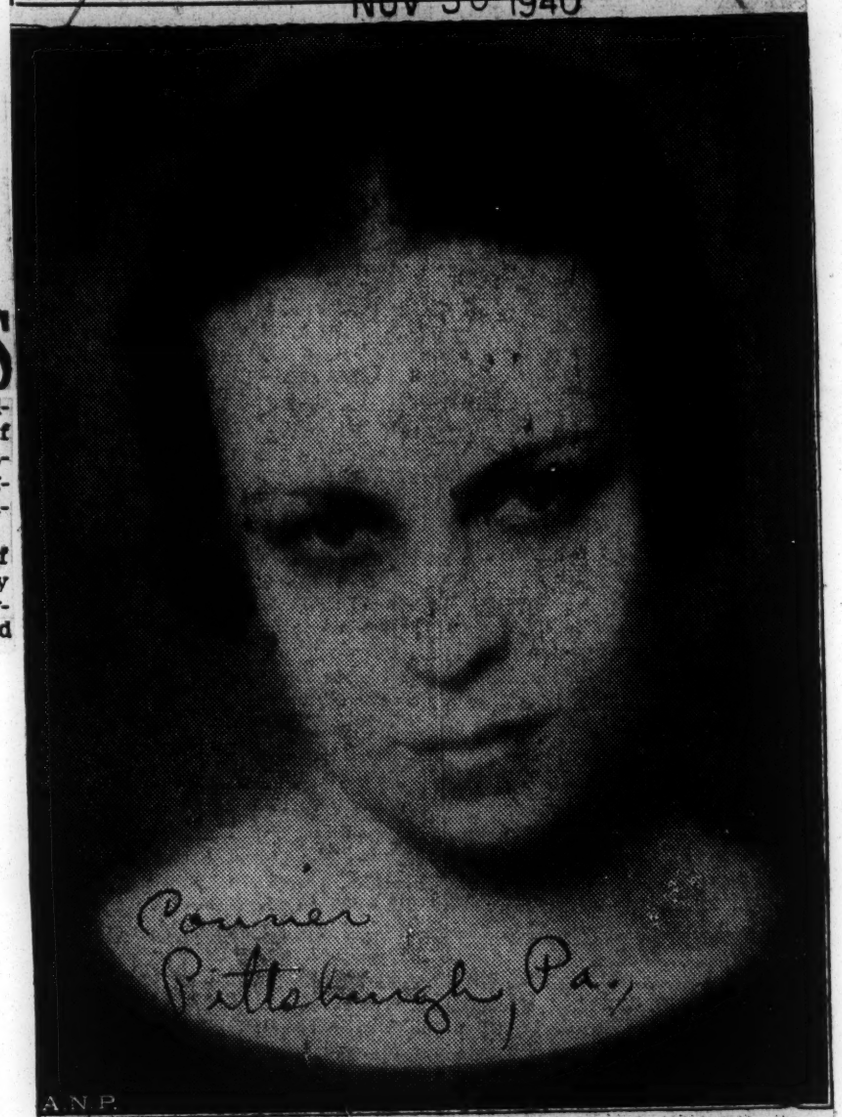
TO CONGRESSIONAL LIBRARY

NOV 30 1940



Mrs. Margaret Reynolds Hunton of Washington, D. C., who has received a professional appointment in the Library of Congress. She is the wife of Dr. W. A. Hunton of Howard university.

Many New Jobs Made Possible Thru Housing

Engineers And Laborers And Clerical Workers Benefit In U. S.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—More than 62,000 jobs at prevailing wages for building trades mechanics and laborers had been provided in more than 100 localities by the slum clearance and low-rent public housing program of the United States Housing Authority up to January 31, 1940, USHA Administrator Nathan Straus, announced today.

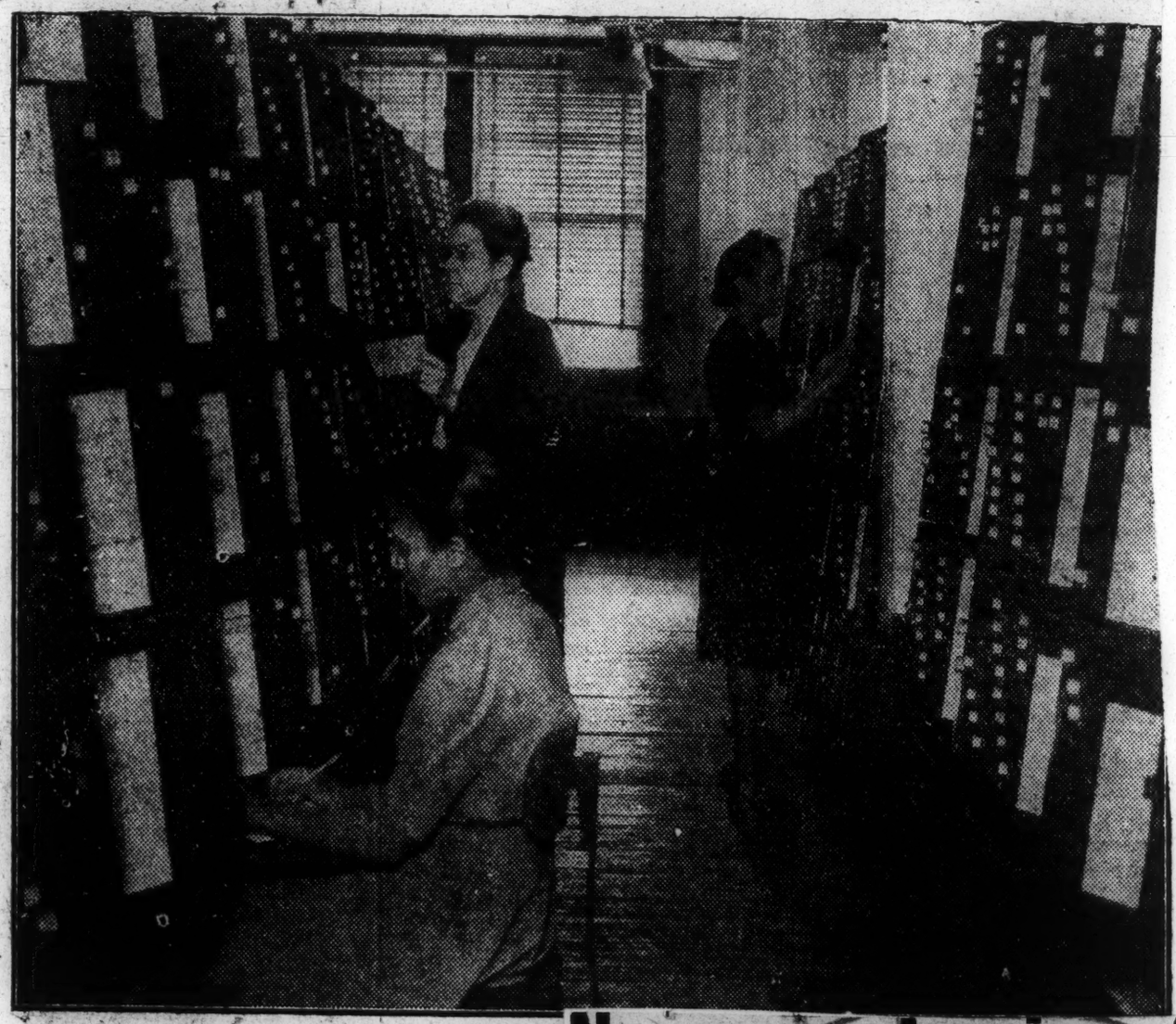
Approximately 512,000 jobs for construction engineers, building trades mechanics, laborers and clerical workers engaged directly on the sites of USHA-aided projects will have received wages totaling about $225,000,000 when the present abridged program is completed.

An average of 31,000 men a week now are employed on the sites of the 167 projects in 100 localities on which construction is under way.

Starting on July 14, 1938, with the employment of less than 100 men on the foundations of the "Red Hook Houses" in New York City, employment for building trades workmen provided by the USHA program had increased to an average employment of 13,300 men a week a year later. By the end of November 1939, the weekly average of employment on the sites was 33,300.

Completion of 12 projects and unfavorable winter weather conditions brought this weekly employment average down to approximately 31,000 during last December and January.

Indexing Names In Social Security Files



Scene shows file clerks at work in part of the visible index which includes the name of 50,000,000 workers covered under the old age and survivors insurance provision of the Social Security Act. There are 105 colored women Civil Service employees in the Social Board headed by Administrator Paul V. Mcnutt of the Federal Security Agency. Twenty-six of these women are college guad uates.

Negroes Losing Out In Printing Office

WASHINGTON.—(ANP)—If Negroes are replaced in the future as fast as they are now being replaced in the government printing office, there will be fewer in that department than in any other big governmental building in the city, according to employes who have witnessed over a period of years certain changes indicative of a policy to exclude Negroes.

The pat scale in this department is higher than in other branches of the government in the city and because of this, the printing office is the goal of many ambitious workers, white and colored.

However, in the past, Negro workers found much employment in the printing office and under former administrations were given opportunities to work in departments other than the custodial division, which has charge of t sanitary departments and the cleaning of the huge buildings.

GET CUSTODIAL JOBS

In this department, work is said to be lighter, but opportunities for promotion scarcer than in other divisions in the building and a noticeable increase in the number of Negroes engaged in this work has caused many of the older employes to seek out the reasons.

Transfers to this department are becoming more frequent for Negroes, and when a white man is assigned to it, in the words of an old employe, "there is no hope for him anywhere else."

According to the story told, there is no definite move afoot to oust the Negro workers in the building, but, when a Negro in a high-paid position is retired or removes for "cause" he is immediately replaced by a white worker. No Negroes are given jobs formerly held by Negroes.

In one division no Negro "from the street" as a new worker is called, has been placed at work for over five years.

Even in the apprentice school which at one time freely accepted Negroes, it is reported that the number of Negroes is limited. This division takes young boys in and train them for a period of four years after which they are accepted in skilled work departments at a better than average rate of pay. Here they are exposed to advancement according to their individual abilities.

Highest paid Negro workers are in the "monotype" department and only a few are working here.

Blaming the administration and the acts of the civil service for this change, Negro workers are being shoved out to make room for the younger white generation now realizing the benefits of working for the government and seeking to make careers out of this type of work.

Not only is this true in the printing office, but in the bureau of engraving and printing it is said that the same principle is being adopted.

A story is told of two young colored men who were appointed to the latter bureau some years ago because of the powerful influence of the senator from their state.

When they were assigned to the job they were told that it was due only to the senator who sent them in, but "no other Negroes would ever hold down these jobs once they got off them."

Civil service may offer a career to some, say these workers, but to Negroes the doors are rapidly closing tighter and tighter and the blame for the rapid change in the attitude of the commission and others is placed squarely on the shoulders of the administration which permits such legislation to be enacted as will bar Negroes from governmental jobs.

FDR's Valet

ARTHUR PRETTYMAN
The new valet to President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Wage-Hour Exemptions Granted Big Business In Congress Stampede

Packing, Lumber and Other Workers Excluded from Act

FINAL VOTE TODAY

Administration Blamed For Dime-An-Hour Bloc Victory

By Adam Lapin
(Daily Worker Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON, May 2. — This was a great day for the big business lobbyists in the capital.

In a riotous and noisy session, the House gave them every exemption from the provisions of the Wage-Hour Act they could possibly ask for.

By the time the House adjourned shortly after 6 P.M., more workers were excluded from the wage and hour provisions of the act than had even been contemplated in the sweeping Barden amendments.

MASS EXCLUSION

Workers in the packing houses, canneries, ice cream plants, lumber mills and in scores of other categories were excluded from the act—all in the name of protecting the "farmer."

There was so much confusion that nobody could calculate just how many workers were exempted by all of the 18 amendments passed during the day.

But it was abundantly clear that every special interest group in the House, from the men representing the great "factories in the fields" of California to the apple growers of Virginia, got something.

Officials at the Wage and Hour Division of the Department of Labor estimate that one amendment alone, introduced by Rep. Schuyler Otis Bland of Virginia, would exempt more than 1,000,000 workers from both wage and hour provisions.

This amendment gives a blanket exemption to all firms engaged in the processing, freezing, packing and preserving of fruits and vegetables.

PROTECTION DESTROYED

Tomorrow the final vote on the Norton Bill as amended by the various proposals approved by the House today will take place.

There was no question in the minds of the Congressmen who were battling to save the Wage-Hour Act that if the bill passes in its present form it will be far more extreme than the Barden amendments.

Most of the low-paid workers who supposed to have been protected by the Wage-Hour Act would now be completely eliminated from its scope.

It should be remembered that the bill which will be voted on tomorrow includes the Buck-Associated Farmers amendment which was passed yesterday.

This amendment is a definition of "agriculture" so broad that it will exclude from the act at least 200,000 workers. Most of the large fruit and vegetable processors of California will be exempted.

One restraint influence when the vote comes up tomorrow is the fact that next week the House will have to pass on the farm appropriation bill—with the farm parity payments and the increases approved by the Senate.

Many of the Congressmen from rural areas are under the thumb of large processors, but they may think twice before taking a step which will possibly result in retaliation by Congressmen from the big cities when the farm bill comes up.

There are also a few Republicans who are afraid of voting for the Norton bill as it now stands because they consider it bad politics in an election year.

Despite these factors, there is about an even chance that the legislative monstrosity which was compounded today may be passed by the House tomorrow.

In this eventuality, labor groups here believe that it will be possible to put enough pressure on the Senate to prevent passage of the measure there.

DODGE RESPONSIBILITY

Rep. Mary Norton, chairman of the House Labor Committee, announced that she has "repudiated" the bill bearing her name which is now pending before the House in view of the numerous amendments which have been passed.

At one point she arose and moved in a sarcastic gesture that the "clerk read all amendments on the desk and that they hereby passed."

The dime-an-hour boys, Reps. Graham Barden of North Carolina, Rep. E. E. Cox of Georgia and their cohorts have now taken over the Norton amendments and are pressing for their passage.

The fact remains, however, that Mrs. Norton, majority leader Sam Rayburn and other administration spokesmen in the House can hardly dodge responsibility for today's debacle.

To begin with, they introduced the Norton amendments which granted exemptions from the hour provisions of the act of close to 500,000 workers.

The administration - sponsored Norton amendments to the Wage-Hour Act were never acceptable to labor, and were vigorously opposed by the CIO.

Following the defeat of the Barden amendments on Tuesday, administration leaders could have pressed for a motion to send the bill back to the Labor Committee for further study and thus forestalled passage of crippling amendments at this session.

Instead, administration leaders chose to vote against motions to this effect introduced by Reps Vito Marcantonio and Donald L. O'Toole of New York—with results which were evident today.

NEGRO CATERER IS SOLD REPUBLICAN CONCESSIONS

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Announcement is made by the committee of Arrangements of the Republican National Committee that the Catering Service in connection with the Republican National Convention to be held in Philadelphia beginning June 24,, has been awarded to John W. Holland Company of Philadelphia, owned by William Newman, one of the most successful Negro businessmen in the country. This is the most important concession the Republican committee has awarded.

All of the restaurants at Convention Hall will be under the direction of Holland's Service. There was warm and spirited competition for this concession.

Mr. Newman's Background

A word about Mr. Newman: He was born in the South and afterward moved to Philadelphia. In Philadelphia, he secured the position as steward on the private car of the president of the Philadelphia and Reeding Railroad.

After eleven years, he retired and entered the catering organization of he late John W. Holland, first as a cook, and later in partnership with Mr. Holland, just three months before Mr. Holland died.

At Mr. Holland's death in 1914, he purchased the entire catering business, goodwill and fixtures. Since that time he has increased the number of employees from three in 1914 to over 100. There are times, depending upon the season, when 100 to 200 extra employees are required to service his contractual work.

Expansion Of His Business

Mr. Newman since 1914, has gradually expanded the business by the purchase of three other properties adjacent to the original location. He has established a Pastry Shop for the sale of ice cream, cakes, confectionary and light luncheons; and more recently, has opened a Restaurant in a new and modern building which is now recognized as one of the finest in Philadelphia.

Since Mr. Newman has assumed control of the business, he has purchased the newest and most modern equipment for catering and restaurant work. He has departmentalized the business, placing capable and experienced men in charge of the various departments. The many innovations and the catering standards he has established have revolutionized the catering business in Philadelphia. His establishment serves many of the most prominent families of Philadelphia, and the greater number of outstanding events in the city, including the lauching of American ships, etc.

The departments of the Holland catering business now includes: Office:—contracts, accounting, employment, kitchen, tailor shop, silver, china, glass, linen, ice cream, bakery, chaufeuring, shipping, recevinig, pastry shop, and retail service, chairs and tables, carpentry, restaurant, and silver repair and plating.

Delegates attending the convention will have the opportunity to see one of the most successful caters in the country in action serving the dignitaries of the Republican Party, their friends, and visitors.

District Bar Honors Freeman For 40 Years With Library

Post Staff Photo

40 YEARS BAR LIBRARIAN—Upon completion of 40 years' continuous service as librarian of the District Bar Association, Elphonse W. Freeman (left) yesterday received a gold watch, presented on behalf of the association by George E. McNeil (right), chairman of the bar association library committee. Austin Canfield (second from left) and Francis W. Hill, jr., bar association president, were among the attorneys and judges who filed into the library in the District courthouse for the occasion

Association Official Given Gold Watch As Attorneys and Members of Judiciary Gather to Offer Their Felicitations

Elphonse W. Freeman, 56, librarian of the District Bar Association, was presented a gold watch by the association yesterday in appreciation of his 40 years' continuous service.

Plans for the presentation had been kept from the librarian, so that he was puzzled when more than 50 prominent attorneys, officials and members of the judiciary filed into the library in the District courthouse for the occasion.

George E. McNeill, chairman of the association's library committee, reminded the audience that the library is the bar association's most valuable asset (the worth of the collection is estimated at more than $100,000) and that for many years it has been under "Alphonzo's" care.

(Alphonzo" is Freeman's nickname.

"Perhaps nobody here except myself," said McNeil, "has called upon 'Alphonzo' for help on some knotty problem of law. But I can assure you that the lawyers who have been assisted by his learning are numbered by the hundreds."

Among those who have congratulated Freeman in an informal reception after the presentation, were Francis W. Hill, jr., president of the Bar Association; former president Sefton Darr, and Godfrey L. Munter, Justices James M. Proctor and David A. Pine; Attorneys Austin F. Canfield, Charles V. Imlay, William E. Richardson, William E. Leahy, Walter English, and Daniel W. O'Donoghue, jr.

Born here in 1884 on the birthday of Gen. Washington, after whom he was given his middle name, Freeman attended grade schools and in 1899 completed a business course at the old Douglas School. First and Pierce streets northwest.

While yet a schoolboy, Freeman was one of a crew employed to salvage the books and files of the Supreme Court, following the explosion and fire of 1898. He became a messenger in the bar association's library in 1900 and was made assistant librarian ten years later. He became librarian in 1927.

Freeman is superintendent of the Sunday school of the Third Baptist Church, Fifth and Q streets northwest, and is chairman of the financial board and the board of trustees of that church. He is president of the Golden Rule Christian Endeavor Union of the District and in 1926 went to London as a delegate to the World Christian Endeavor conference. He then visited France, Germany, Belgium and Holland.

Freeman lives with his wife at 1106 Lamont street northwest. His father, Charles D. Freeman, retired two years ago after 46 years as an attache of the United States Court of Appeals.

New P. O. Gets 3 More Clerks

WASHINGTON

Three additional clerks have been added to the staff of the new Midcity Postoffice substation, located at Fourteenth and T Streets, Northwest, which was opened for business on September 1.

The new clerks have been placed on a part-time basis, their stay at the T Street office to be determined by the demand. G. N T. Gray, National Postal Alliance official, stated that the more business done at the Midcity station, the greater will be the assurance that the enlarged all-colored staff will be maintained.

One Is Special Clerk

The new additions are Ernest R. Johnson, Frederick Williams and Julius J. C. Bryan. Johnson is classified as a special clerk.

Assignment of colored clerks to the T Street office came about as a result of an AFRO fight on their behalf. Benjamin Johnson was made superintendent of the station, the first colored man to hold that position in Washington. He was given an original staff of three full-time clerks, Richard W. Gant, J. Asa Williams and Lewis Virgil

40-Hour Week Law Effective Oct. 23

Washington Post

Washington D. C.

Colonel Fleming Explains New Phase Of U. S. Regulation

Calling attention to the fact that the 40-hour week under the wage-hour law goes into effect Wednesday, October 23, Col. Philip Fleming, administrator, said yesterday that employers need not adhere to the new schedule in any work week beginning before midnight of October 23.

OCT 7 1940

"It is our opinion that the 40-hour week will apply for the first time to the first full work-week beginning on or after midnight, October 23, 1940," Col. Fleming said. "This is in accordance with the language of the act, which declares that employes shall not be worked 'for a work-week longer than 40 hours after the expiration of the second year from the effective date of the act.'

Examples Are Cited

"If the employe's work begins, for example, on Monday, October 21, the employer need pay time and a half only if more than 42 hours are worked in the period of seven consecutive days from Monday, October 21, through Sunday, October 27, inclusive."

If the employe's work-week begins on or after midnight, October 23, Col. Fleming explained, the employer must pay time and a half after 40 hours are worked in the work-week beginning at such time. For employers whose regular work-week begins on Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday, the 40-hour provision will not become effective until Monday, October 28, Tuesday, October 29, or Wednesday, October 30, respectively.

Minimum Pay Unchanged

Col. Fleming said the present statutory minimum wage rate of 30 cents an hour remains unchanged until October, 1945. This does not apply in cases where industry committees have recommended minimum wages higher than the statutory requirement of 30 cents per hour, which became effective on October 24, 1939.

Minimums higher than 30 cents have become effective through wage orders issued by the Administrator in the hosiery, textile, millinery, shoe, knitted underwear, woolen, knitted outerwear apparel, leather, and pulp and primary paper industries. Minimum wage rates established by wage orders based on recommendations of industry committees in those industries range from 32½ to 40 cents per hour.

Postal Workers Get Promotions During 1939

WASHINGTON (ANP) — The promotion of Alexander King from station superintendent to assistant cashier in the New York postoffice was one of the more important changes noted in the 1939 report of G. N. T. Gray, welfare director of the National Alliance of Postal employes.

Mr. Gray also stated that twelve railway postal clerks were advanced to clerks in charge of railway post offices and a few eligibles were appointed substitute railway postal clerks. The report states further:

Fourteen Supervisors in N.Y.

"There are fourteen colored supervisory officials in the New York post office. In Philadelphia, the situation is unchanged with one superintendent, one foreman.

"Pittsburgh, Baltimore, Jersey City, Indianapolis, list one supervising official each; Cincinnati, two, Cleveland, three; Columbus, with two, showed no gains.

"One supervisor was appointed in Chicago for a total of seven; one in St. Louis, for a total of two; one in Detroit for a total of three; while for the first time in the history of the Washington, D.C., post office and the St. Paul, Minn., office, a supervisor was appointed in each."

district supervisor, working under James Andrew McClendon, the only colored district supervisor in the entire setup.

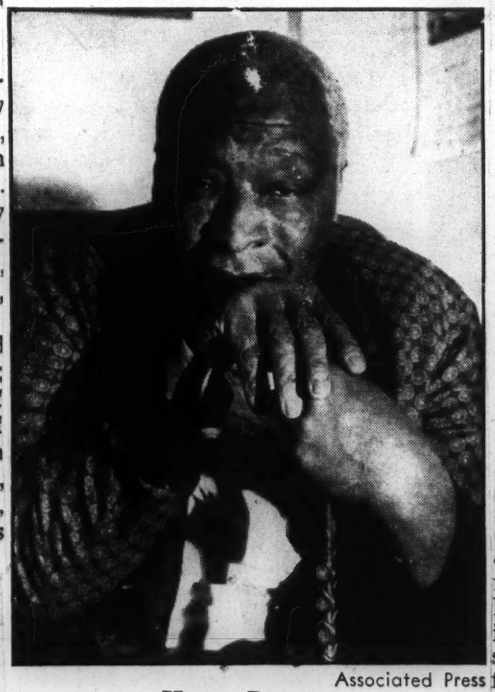
In New York, the assistant district supervisor will be Cuthbert P. Spencer, working under a white supervisor. Later it is expected that others will be named, one with an office in Sol Bloom's district and the other in Gavagan's district in Harlem.

Boston will be represented by an assistant district supervisor, William H. S. Dabney.

These appointments have been approved by the director of the census and the appointees have finished their training courses and are now ready to take over their duties.

Other Negroes now in training will be named in the event they qualify in their courses.

For the first time in some 60 years, white-polled, popular, old (70-odd) Negro Harry Parker, grandson of George Washington's body servant, longtime (48 years) messenger for the House Ways & Means Committee was absent from the opening of Congress. What kept him away was the misery in his back. Said Harry Parker sadly: "The Lord has took me up the big hill for 60-odd years, but now He's put on my brakes and it ain't for me to complain."



Associated Press

HARRY PARKER

The Lord put on the brakes.

More Census Appointments Are Revealed

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(ANP)—Official announcements concerning the appointments to higher bracket positions in the census show that in Chicago, George B. Nesbitt, has been named assistant

178 Colored Appointed In Census Bureau

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 22—A total of 178 colored workers are employed in the Census Bureau in Washington at the present time, according to the Chief of the Bureau's Division of Appointments. These persons are engaged in work preparatory to the taking of the gigantic 1940 Census which will begin April 1.

Colored persons are employed in nearly every type of work done by the Census Bureau, the report indicates. A recapitulation by types of employment shows:

1 Legal Research Aid; 1 Junior Administrative Assistant; 2 Supervising Clerks; 6 Draftsmen; 58 Clerks; 2 Clerk Stenographers; 16 Clerk typists; 1 Clerk Operative; 1 Photostat Operator

Messenger Honored After 32 Years of Service in House

Samuel Hardy, messenger to the ways and means committee of the House of Representatives, recently completed 32 years of service. Rep. McCormack, of Massachusetts, through unanimous consent of the House, inserted in the Congressional Record a statement lauding Mr. Hardy's services.

"In his 32 years of service he has made his work unique," the statement read, in part: "It is the general opinion that he is principally responsible for the Ways and Means Committee having the finest set of records and documents of any committee at the Capitol, neatly and orderly kept, accumulated over a number of years. He is thoroughly familiar with this store-house of material, as the office of the legislative counsel, members of Congress, and the staffs for which he works uanimously will testify."

After 43 Years in U.S. Library

WASHINGTON, D.C., April 11—(NP)—Rounding out 43 years of service in the U.S. Library of Congress, Louis A. Alexander retired from active service as private messenger to the librarian on Monday of this past week.

PRESIDENT TRIUMPHS WITH HOUSE DEFEAT OF WAGE ACT CHANGE

Sudden Action Kills Chances Of Revising Measure At This Session

VOTE STANDS 205 TO 175

Norton Bill Recommitted For Further Study

MOVE APPLAUDED WEAKLY

Dispute Resolves Itself Into Battle Between City And Farm Members, With Parity Payments At Stake

By The United Press

WASHINGTON, May 3.—President Roosevelt won an impressive voctory in the House Friday night when the chamber killed all chances of revising the Wage-Hour Law at this session.

The action came after several days of tumultuous debate when members voted, 205 to 175, to recommit a bill by Chairman Norton (D., N. J.) of the Labor Committee, which proposed comparatively moderate changes in the law.

Substitute Rejected

Preceding this vote, the House rejected, 211 to 171, a substitute measure which would have exempted an additional 3,000,000 workers from protection under the minimum wages of maximum hours provisions of the act.

The motion to recommit was offered by Representative Wadsworth (R., N. Y.) and had powerful Administration backing. It carried out the objective outlined by President Roosevelt in a letter to Mrs. Norton at the outset of the stormy fight. He asked that the law be allowed to stand unchanged for another year until any weaknesses had been conclusively displayed.

The outcome was greeted by weak applause. Mrs. Norton, who directed the floor fight against all attacks on the law, voted against recommittal, but indicated that she preferred this result to acceptance of legislaiton that would have emasculated the act.

Farm Payments Involved

Potent behind-the-scenes factors played a vital part in deciding the issue. The dispute resolved itself into a tug-of-war between city and farm members. One of the prizes was the $212,000,000 farm parity payments projected in the Agricultural Appropriation Bill.

The House rejected the parity payments. The Senate voted them into the bill and they were accepted by conferees of the two chambers. Urban representatives flatly informed their colleagues from farm areas that they would vote against parity payments if widespread wage-hour exemptions were approved.

As long as members sat in Committee of the Whole, where no record vote could be taken, the farm bloc consistently supported changes

PRESIDENT TRIUMPHS IN WAGE-HOUR FIGHT

(Continued From Page One)

which would exempt workers in agricultural processing plants, in banks and trust companies, on newspapers having less than 5000 circulation, those earning $1500 or more a year, and those in plants packing or canning perishable or seasonable fruits.

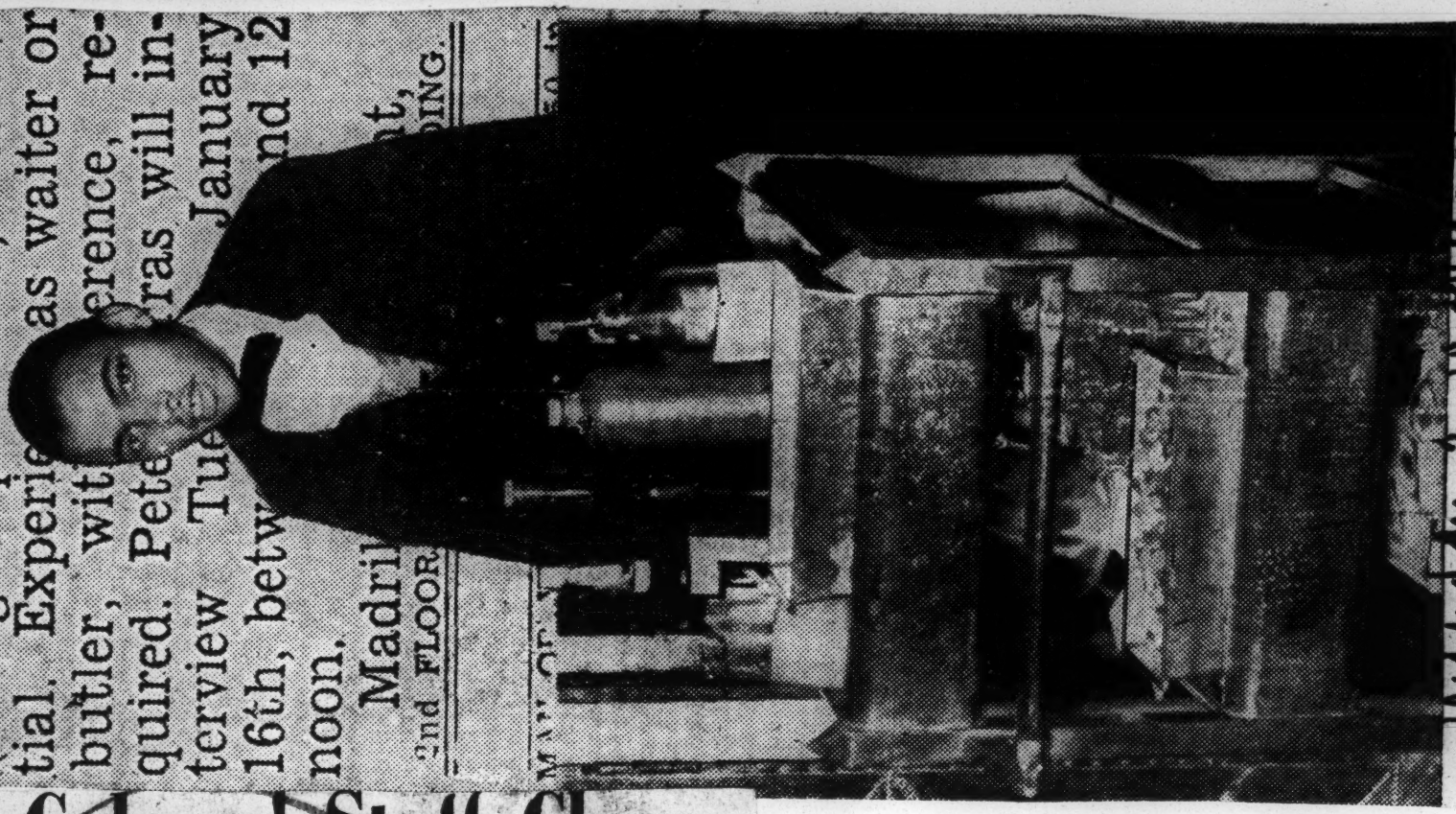
Turns About Face

With a loud roar of "Aye" the House tentatively accepted a substitute carrying all of these exemptions. But on a roll call vote it did an about face and voted "No." It is this ballot which will go into the Congressional Record and which will be sent to their constituents.

GEORGIA ACCENT PREFERRED

BOX '19-Z,' Star.

WAITER,
Tall (six feet or more) (black) Negro, and handsome. Bearing and grooming will be asset for special dining room. Southern accent (Georgia preferred) essential. Experie as waiter or butler, wit erence, required. Pete ras will interview Tue January 16th, betw nd 12 noon.
Madril t,
2nd FLOOR ING.



An advertisement appearing in a Washington, D.C., daily brought a "Negro," of black color, "Georgia Accent Preferred" for employment in a local lily-white restaurant. The successful applicant was Joe Herman Kountz, pictured here, who seems to qualify except for complexion. As for the "Georgia accent," we can't verify that. However, Joe says a job's a job nowadays and he's really glad to get this one.—Scurlock photo.

50 Negroes Take D. C. Census

WASHINGTON. — (ANP) — Included in the 476 census takers in the District of Columbia are 50 Negro men and women. At one of the recent meetings held for instruction of the workers, the supervisor is alleged to have told funny stories in which the opprobious term "darky" was used when referring to colored people. All of the whites laughed, but there was silence among the Negro workers, who later planned to send a protest against such references to their race.

All-Colored Staff Chosen For New D. C. Post Office

SEP 17 1940

Tribune - Washington D.C.

Benjamin R. Johnson, of 715 Irving Street, Northwest, who has been connected with the U.S. Post Office Department for more than twenty years, will be superintendent in charge of the new T Street Station, just West of Fourteenth Street, Northwest, when it is formally opened to the public on September 16, it was disclosed by G. N. T. Gray, welfare director of the National Alliance of Postal Employees, Wednesday.

SEP 7 1940

Mr. Johnson's assistants in the new, modern white stone building include: Richard W. Gant, of 121 V Street, Northwest, in service for twenty-one years; Lewis Virgil, of 41 Q Street, Northwest, and J. Asa Williams, 90 R Street, Northwest.

All of the appointees are being appointed from special posts they held in the main station.

The new station, which Mr. Gray says is "equivalent to a good-sized post office," will not be a carrier station but a financial station. It will have all facilities such as registry, money orders, postal savings, stamps, etc. The hours will be from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

The old carrier station near Fifteenth and U Streets, will be discontinued and a new station where carriers will gather, located on Irving between Fourteenth and Fifteenth Streets.

The new set-up, according to Mr. Gray will put Washington on par, so far as colored postal personnel in high posts is concerned, with any in the country. He recalled that the Capital City now has: superindent, foreman, two clerks in the terminal, and the recent assignment of James B. Cobb, of 3113 Thirteenth Street, to the registry section of the main office.

SEP 14 1940

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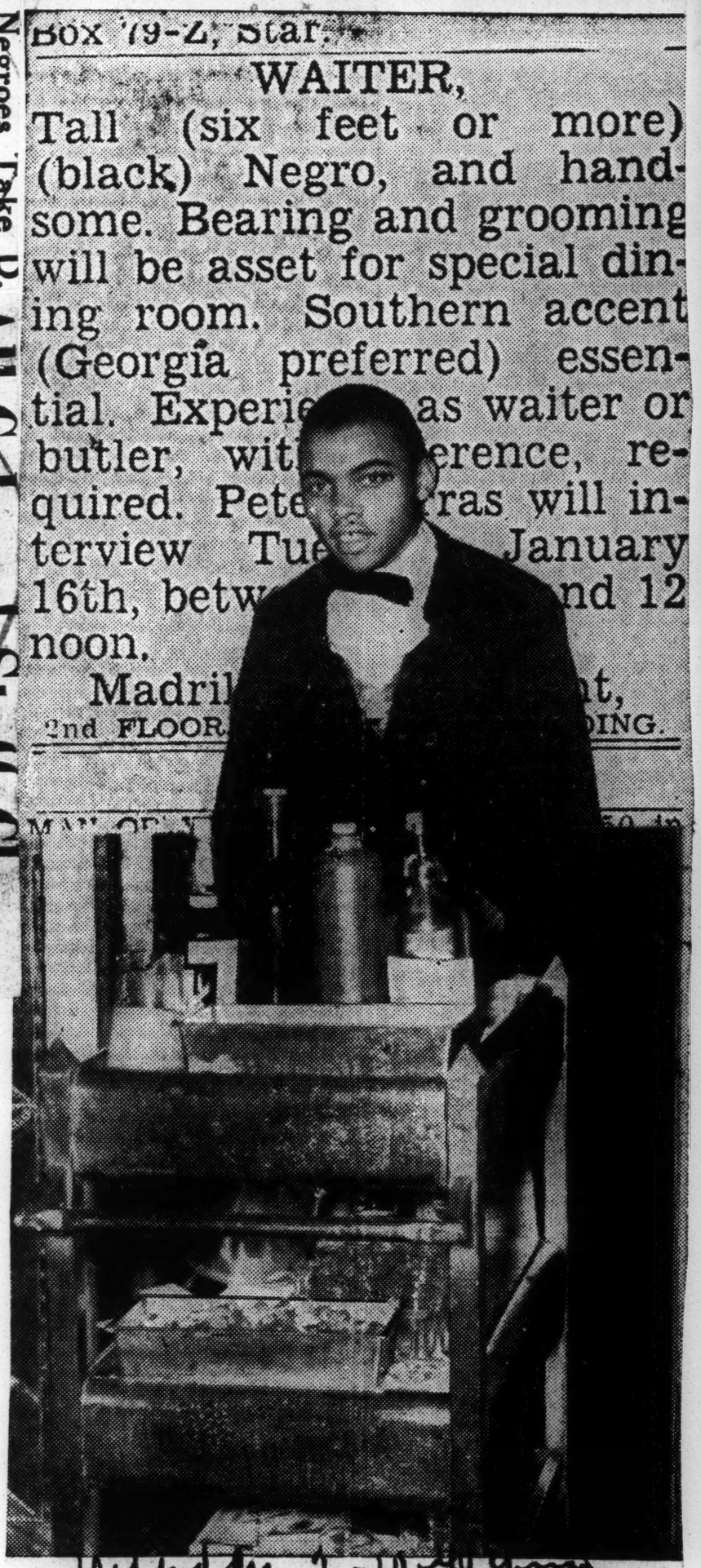

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Senate Republicans Prevent Raid On Positions Of Colored Employees Of Recorder Of Deeds

BY EMMETT J. SCOTT

WASHINGTON, D. C. — A discussion asore in the U. S. Senate a few days ago with respect to transferring from the Office of the Recorder of Deeds of Columbia to the D. C. Department of Vehicles and Traffic the duty of recording and releasing liens and encumbrances on motor vehicles, trailers, etc.

The largest number of colored employees in any department of the Government at Washington is in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds to which position, traditionally. a colored Republican, or Democrat, has been appointed over a period of nearly fifty years.

Such outstanding colored Republicans as Frederick Douglass, B. K. Bruce. Henry P. Cheatham, John C. Dancy, Henry Lincoln Johnson, Arthur G. Froe and J. S. Coage have served in this position and three colored Democrats.

Despite the fact that thousands and thousands of white clerks are employed in other departments of the Government, the positions which have gone to colored employees in the Recorder's Office have always been looked upon as secure.

The Office of the Recorder of Deeds is now presided over by Dr. William J. Thompkins, Democrat, who has fought the battles of his party for years in Kansas City, Missouri, and throughout the West.

Senator John H. Overton of Louisiana, another Democrat, supported with great vigor and determination the proposed Amendment to take from Dr. Thompkins' office the duty and responsibility of recording the liens and incumbrances referred to. Other Democrats joined in the discussion as earnestly as did Senator Overton, the Democrats joined in the discussion as earnestly as did Senator Overton, the Democratic member of Dr. Thompkin's political party, urging the suggested transfer.

DEMOCRATS VOTE FOR

COLORED ELIMINATIONS

Four pages of the Congressional Record were required to print the discussion of the merits and demerits of the proposed Amendment. When a vote was taken, 20 Democratic members of Dr. Thompkin's political party and one Farm-Laborite voted for the transfer.

Senator Thomas of Oklahoma stated that "the only purpose of the proposed Amendment is to eliminate a large number of colored employees of the Office of the Recorder of Deeds and the vacancies created to be given to white people in another department of the District Government". Senator Thomas remarked that this was the whole motive behind the Bill.

Further, he stated that the purpose of the Bill, supported by the 20 Democrats already referred to, is "to get this Department from under Dr. Thompkins and put it under the Director of Traffic and thereby decrease the patronage of Dr. Thompkins' office on the one hand, and to increase the patronage of the Office of the Director of Traffic and the Commissioners on the other."

Senator Overton, Democrat of Louisiana. fought to controvert this statement in several somewhat extended speeches. The final result of the vote was 21 in favor of transferring the department, with 33 against such transfer.

An analysis of the vote is interesting. While 20 Democrats voted to make the transfer only 18 Democrats voted against such transfer.

REPUBLICANS SAVED THE DAY

If it had not been for Republican Senators the transfer would have been made. many colored clerks necessarily dismissed. and Dr. Thompkins would have been greatly embarrassed. 14 Republicans and 1 Progressive came to the rescue and recorded 15 votes against the transfer, making the final vote 33 nays to 21 yeas. Not a single Republican voted for the transfer.

During the coming Presidential election it will be difficult for Dr Thompkins, ardent Democrat that he is, to explain why 20 members of his own Democratic party voted to delude his office of this important department with only 18 Democrats supporting him.

If the 14 Republicans and 1 Progressive had voted with the 20 Democrats opposing Dr. Thompkins, the Record would have shown 35 to 18 for the transfer.

AGAIN. THE GOP HAS RALLIED THE VOTES in a matter of DEEP INTEREST AND CONCERN to the COLORED PEOPLE OF THE WHOLE COUNTRY

Report Race Custom Workers Get $677,184

WASHINGTON—(ANP) — Race employes in the U. S. customs service of the treasury department in the United States government number 428 and draw salaries aggregating $677,184 per annum. This gives an average salary of $1,582.21 to a group of workers ranging from deputy collectors at $12 per year to liquidators at $3,200 per year.

Divided into two sections, there is the local Washington bureau which employs 10 persons and the field division which has 328 scattered in all parts of the United States.

Of the 10 Washington office employes there are no workers classified higher than "under-clerk" of which there are two whose annual salaries are $1,380 per annum. The other eight workers are messengers ranging in salary from $1,200 to $1,560.

It is in the field division that the classifications run the full extent. Some of them are as follows:

Liquidators: five, whose salaries are from $2,400 to $3,200 per annum.

Entry clerk: one, at $3,100 per annum, which is the same salary paid one station inspector.

Inspectors: 15, with salaries ranging from $2,100 to $3,000 per year.

Deputy collectors: eight, with salary ranges from $12 per annum to $2,500.

Deputy collectors in charge: two, $1,500 to $2,580 per annum.

Custom guards: 38, with salaries from $1,860 to $2,200. This is a popular position and there are 30 of these guards whose salaries are $1,920 per annum.

Clerks: 42, from $600 to $2,800 per year. Under-clerks: five, from $1,380 to $1,620 per year.

One clerk stenographer at $2,100 and one typist at $1,700 are all in this bracket.

Verifier-opener-packers number 47, and their salaries run from $1,680 to $1,860 per year.

Then there is a "sugar sampler" who gets $1,620 per year.

Watchmen total six, and their salaries are from $1,260 to $1,680 yearly.

One chauffeur draws $1,500 per year.

There is one inspector engineer whose salary is $960 yearly.

Four janitors get from $24 per year to $540.

One mechanic draws $1,980 annually.

Twenty-two messengers have salaries ranging from $1,320 to $1,740 per year.

And in the laboring class there are 211 workers whose salaries run from $600 per annum to $1,500 per year. Of this number 117 are unclassified laborers, 113 of whom receive salaries of $1,500 yearly.

The cusoms service is only one of the many units of the treasury department, but it is one of the most important units with officials spread out all over the country.

Job Openings Sought In Counsel's Office

WASHINGTON, D. C.—As a result of a recent conference between Matthew F. McGuire, assistant to the Attorney General, and a delegation seeking the appointment of a colored lawyer to an existing vacancy on the Police Court bench, efforts are likely to be made to secure several jobs in the office of the Corporation Counsel.

At present, there are 38 employees in that office, whose annual salaries total $122,440. None of them is colored.

Spokesmen for the delegation which conferred with Mr. McGuire several days ago, included Charles M. Thomas, president of the Federation of Civic Associations; Henry Lincoln Johnson, Jr., of the Elks' civil liberties committee; Belford V. Lawson, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity; the Rev. Robert W. Brooks, president of the Interdenominational Ministers' Alliance; Campbell C. Johnson, secretary of the Twelfth Street Y. M. C. A. and a member of the District of Columbia Parole Board, and Mrs. Velma G. Williams, member of the Board of Education.

Other members of the delegation included the Rev. Arthur Gray of the National Negro Congress; Miss Elsie Austin, president of the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority; George A. Parker, president of the Washington Bar Association; George W. Beasley, president of the Northwest Civic Association, the Rev. W. H. Jernagin, president of the National Baptist Sunday School Convention.

Louis Lautier, of the Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity; George W. Goodman, Washington Urban League, Mrs. Thomasina W. Johnson, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority; Frederick S. Weaver, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity; Garland Mackey, and Felix Hall Payne, Jr., deputy recorder of deeds.

Race Losing Out at U.S. Printing Office

(ANP)
WASHINGTON.

If colored are replaced in the future as fast as they are now being replaced in the Government printing office, there will be fewer in that department than in any other big governmental building in the city, according to employees who have witnessed over a period of years certain changes indicative of a policy to exclude them.

The pay scale in this department is higher than in other branches of the Government in the city and, because of this, the printing office is the goal of many ambitious workers, colored and white.

According to the story told, there is no definite move afoot to oust the colored workers in the building, but when a colored person in a high paid position is retired or removed for "cause" he is immediately replaced by a white worker.

Negro Customs Workers Get $677,184 Annually

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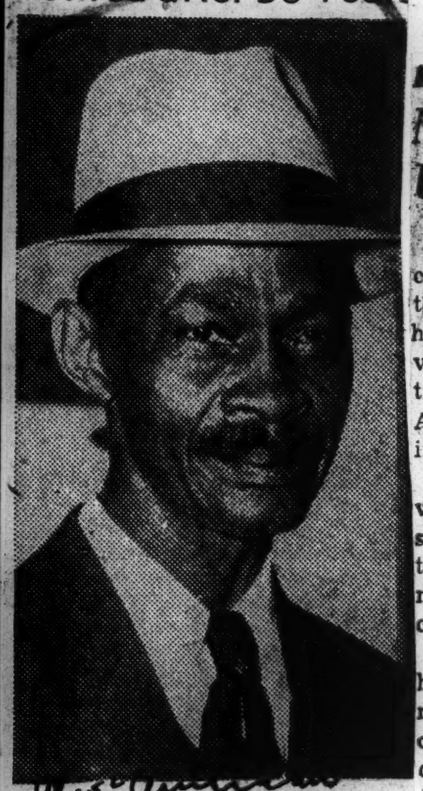
LABOR- 1940
OCCUPATION, WAGES, ETC.

D.C.

Retired after 36 Years



ROBERT JACKSON, who was retired on Monday from the Bureau of Engraving and Printing in Washington, after having served thirty-six years in the department. He was given a retirement party at his home, 768 Irving Street, Northwest, on Monday evening by his co-workers.

Washington (D. C.) Post

SEP 11 1940

Red Cap Charges Mrs. Roosevelt Underpaid Him

Cincinnati, Sept. 10 (AP).—Two red cap porters testified today at an Interstate Commerce Commission hearing that Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt and Judge Florence Allen, of the United States Circuit Court of Appeals, underpaid them for carrying their luggage.

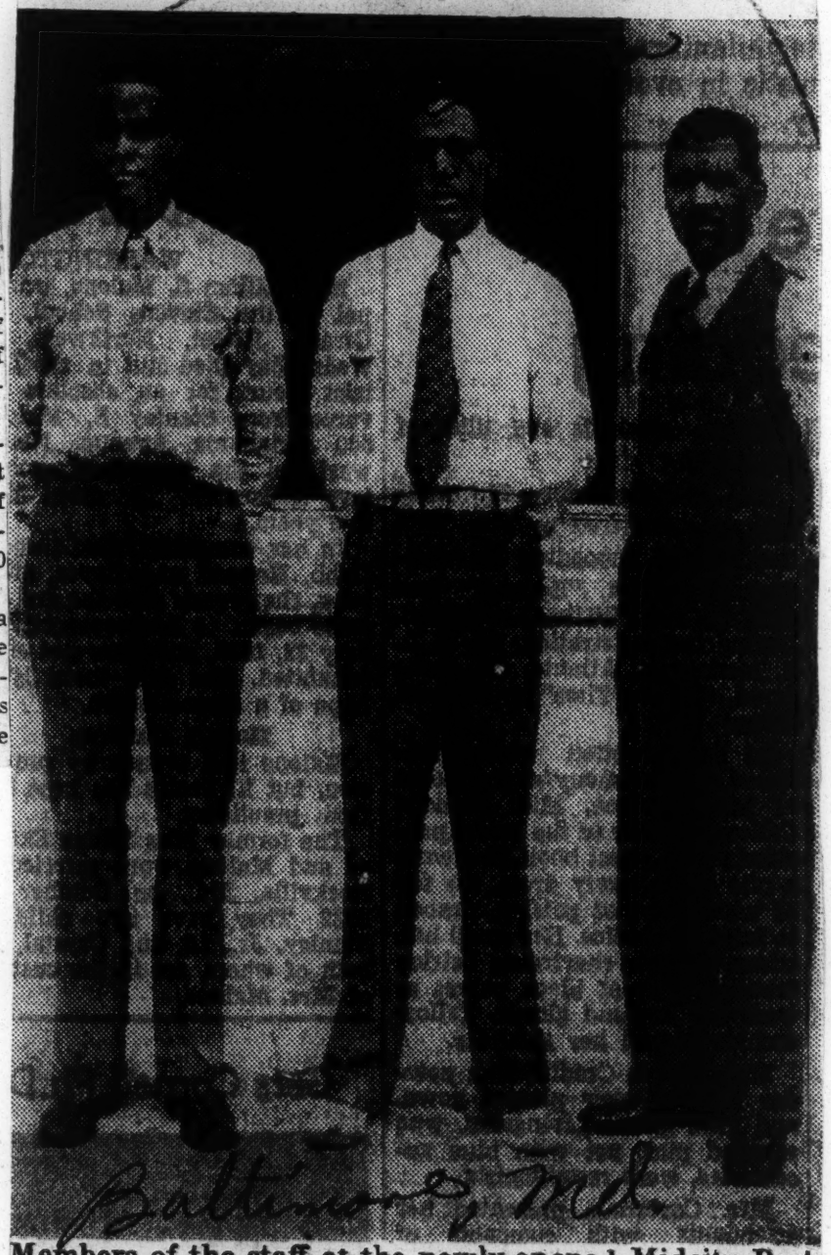
Clinton McDuffy said Mrs. Roosevelt gave him 50 cents for a 70-cent service. He did not apprise her of the oversight and the Union Terminals Co. overlooked the other 20 cents, McDuffy said.

SEP 11 1940

The testimony was given in a hearing to determine whether the method of paying for luggage handling—10 cents for each parcel—is contrary to the interstate commerce laws.

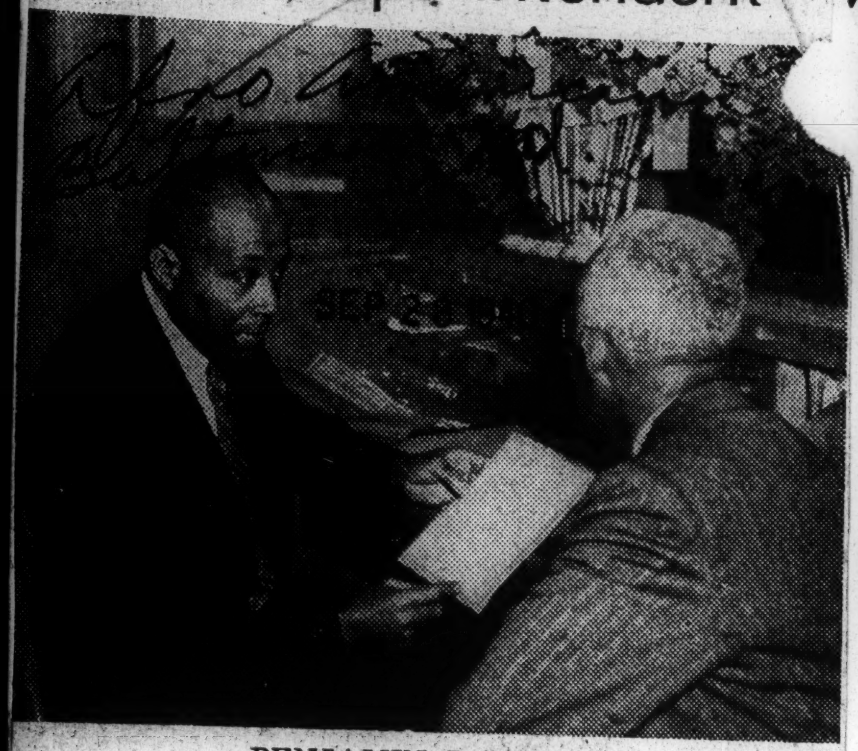
New Post Office Staff

SEP 28 1940



Members of the staff at the newly-opened Midcity Postoffice substation in Washington. They are (left to right): Lewis Virgil, clerk; J. Asa Williams, clerk, and Richard W. Gant, assistant superintendent.

First Superintendent



BENJAMIN JOHNSON,
newly appointed superintendent of the recently opened Mid-city Postoffice sub-station, Fourteenth and T Streets, Northwest, Washington, discusses the lock-box system with a prospective customer. Elevation of Mr. Johnson to the post of superintendent was the direct result of an AFRO appeal to Postmaster Vincent C. Burke. The new station is manned entirely by colored postal employees.

Congress Library Accepts First Negro Professionals; Reynolds, Williams Named

New Librarian Breaks Long Tradition In Office Administration

Mrs. Roosevelt Is Behind Move

NOV 30 1940

WASHINGTON—(ANP)—The Library of Congress has opened its cloistered doors to Negro professional employes. For the first time in the history of this institution, under the liberal administration of the new librarian, Archibald MacLeish, two trained library professionals have received appointments.

Wins Congressional Library Post

NOV 30 1940

Mrs. Margaret Reynolds Hunton, of Washington, D. C., who has just received a professional appointment in the Library of Congress the first time a Negro librarian has been selected for a post of this type in the country's outstanding library. Mrs. Hunton, the wife of Dr. W. A. Hunton of Howard university, is a graduate of Howard and of Syracuse University School of Library Science, where she was a Rosenwald Fellow for three years. Widely experienced, she has worked in the Chicago Public Library, the U. S. Office of Education as a bibliographer, and the American Youth Commission.

Mrs. Margaret Reynolds Hunton and Mrs. Ethel R. Williams are now part of the staff in the processing division.

While Mr. MasLeish is to be commended for this move in the direction of more democratic administration of a tax supported institution, not a little of the credit for the inequalities of the situation in the library is due to the activity of numerous organizations and individuals working over a period of several years. These include the National Negro Congress, N. A. A. C. P., the Pleasant Plains Civic Association, United Federal Workers of America, Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, Dr. William Thompkins, recorder of deeds; Joseph A. Evans, NYA.; and Walter G. Daniel, librarian of Howard university. It is generally regretted, however, that no Negroes as yet are employed in similar capacity in the public libraries of the District of Columbia.

Mrs. Hunton, the wife of Dr. W. A. Hunton of Howard university, and the daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Dexter P. Reynolds of Chicago, is a graduate of Howard and of Syracuse University School of Library Science, where she was a Rosenwald fellow for three years. She also finished the Chicago Library Training class, and is now working on an M. A. degree. She brings a wide variety of experience to her new position, having worked in the Chicago Public Library, the Fisk University library, Miner Teachers College Library, the U. S. Office of Education as a bibliographer and with the American Youth commission.

NOV 30 1940

Mrs. Hunton is the first Negro member of Pi Lambda Sigma, honorary library fraternity. She is also a member of the American Library Association, is president of the Columbia Civic Library Association and secretary of the Washington chapter of the Progressive Librarians council.

Mrs. Williams is a graduate of Howard and of Columbia University Library School. She has had several months experience in Howard library.

LABOR- 1940
OCCUPATION, WAGES, ETC.

FLORIDA

Tampa Tribune
June 20, 1940

Negro Longshoreman Dies Of Fumes in Ship's Hold

Will Freeman, negro longshoreman, died at Blocks' terminal on Seddon island yesterday after he had been overcome with gas fumes in the hold of the Bull line freighter Ellenor alongside the dock. The ship was discharging a cargo of castor pumice.

Two other negroes were affected by the fumes. One, Roosevelt Mack, was taken to the Tampa negro hospital, where he recovered. The other suffered little effects.

Florida's Joads

MIGRATORY farm workers of Florida are concentrated around the citrus belt and the vegetable-growing muckland of the Everglades. Theoretically earning 15 cents an hour, the migrants work twelve to sixteen hours daily, often seven days a week, seldom get paid for more than eight hours a day. Late freezes, total damage $6,000,000, made matters much worse. The WPA administrator decided that "few of the migrants have been in the state long enough to be eligible for WPA employment." Recently the State Bureau of Sanitation ventured into the territory, plastered condemnation notices on more than five hundred dwellings, threatened evictions after April 16. Conditions were described as "the filthiest, most unsanitary" ever seen.

By April 18 fifty-nine white families were able to move into a camp constructed by the Farm Security Administration, which will eventually accommodate 176 families. A Negro camp, with 358 units, is said to be nearing completion. Total accommodation in the migratory camps, 2,250. Total migrants, twenty thousand. If the remaining 17,750 migrants are forcibly evicted from their "filthy, unsanitary" homes they'll have to sleep in the muck or take to the trees. Maybe they'll be "saved" by the men to whom they pay rent, the owners of the wretched shacks, who tried to prevent construction of even the two camps that were built by the Farm Security Administration.

Negro CCC Enrollee Awarded the Certificate of Valor For Heroism

NOV 10 1940

The Civilian Conservation Corps Certificate of Valor has been awarded to CCC enrollee Hilary E. Mears of 822 N. New York avenue, Lakeland, Florida, for saving two children from drowning, it was announced today by James J. McEntee, Director of the Corps. The award was the fortieth one made, thirty-nine CCC boys having previously been honored with the certificates which are given for acts of heroism or exceptionally courageous action beyond the call of duty. Mears is the first Negro enrollee to receive this honor.

At the present time Mears is an enrollee with Negro CCC company 2441, located in a Soil Conservation Service camp at Church Point, Louisiana, near the point where Mears saved two persons from drowning.

Mears received the award for risking his life to save the lives of Lena Pete and Roosevelt Marbrough of Church Point, Louisiana. On August 9, 1940, at about 2:00 p. m., two girls and a boy, Lena Pete, Laurance Lavonne and Roosevelt Malbrough were wading in water on the top of the highway leading into Church Point. Owing to hurricane and flood conditions existing on that day the water on the highway came up to about their waists. The three children were holding one another by the hand as they made their way. Lena stumbled and carried the other two with her into a swift current which rapidly carried them into the deep water of a canal, that runs along the side of the roadway. Laurance broke loose from Lena and Roosevelt and swam to safety, leaving the other two children struggling in the water. Roosevelt could swim but due to Lena's tight clasp around his body, he was unable to help her to safety. A crowd soon gathered and their screams mingled with those of Lena and Roosevelt. Enrollee Mears, on duty as a lookout, heard the commotion, ran toward the distressed persons and dove into the 18 feet of water and swam out to them. Upon reaching the persons he saw only Lena. Mears grabbed her under her arm and brought her safely to shore, where he discovered to his amazement that he had also saved the life of Roosevelt Malbrough. Malbrough was hanging on to Lena's legs.

Witnesses said that Mears' rescue of the boy and girl was made extremely hazardous by two wire fences submerged under the water, a fact which was known to Mears when he went to the aid of the children.

In making the award of the Certificate of Valor, Mr. McEntee, Director of the Corps, also sent a letter of commendation to Enrollee Mears in which he said, "as the years pass, you can look back with commendable pride upon your courageous act in that you did not hesitate to risk your life to save others."

Lakeland, Fla., Ledger & Star Tele
November 5, 1940

LAKELANDER FIRST NEGRO TO RECEIVE CCC VALOR AWARD

WASHINGTON, Nov. 5—(AP)—The civil conservation corps announced that its certificate of valor has been awarded Hilry E. Mears, Lakeland, Fla., the first negro to receive such recognition.

Director James J. McEntee said Mears, enrolled in the negro CCC company at Church Point, La., was awarded the certificate for saving a boy and a girl in a flood following a hurricane last August.

Mears, on lookout duty, dived into 18 feet of water in which there were two submerged barbed wire fences and brought the girl to safety. Reaching the shore he discovered the boy was hanging on to the girl.

Birmingham Ala News
November 5, 1940

Negro CCC Enrollee Rewarded For Heroism

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Tallahassee, Fla. Democrat
October 23, 1940

NEGRO EMPLOYES UNDER ARREST

Falsification of Work Records Charged

Arrest of 14 negro employes of the Elberta Crate company was made today as the unemployment compensation division of the state industrial commission cracked down on workers who allegedly have obtained money through false representation of working hours.

Sheriff Frank Stoutamire's office started serving warrants issued today for the employes who are charged with obtaining compensation for days which they claimed to have been out of work but on which they were employed.

Warrants were issued by County Judge James C Gwynn for the arrest of John Hobbs, James E Lee, James Dixon, Inez Johnson, Fred B Warren, Clarence Washington, Raymond White, Willis A Williams, Abraham Wright, John McGee, Governor Gibson, John L Reddick, Ned Slappy and Walter Kennon.

Director Fred B Bradshaw of the compensation division said an investigation revealed that the accused workers reported working only one or two days a week when actually they were employed more.

Compensation was obtained for time which they claimed not to have been working, he said.

It was the largest mass prosecution ever instigated by the office in Leon county, although several individual cases have been handled recently.

"We always have prosecuted misrepresentations," Bradshaw said, "and will continue to prosecute them. The money collected from employers belongs to the workers of the county or state and the false collection of money by individuals is taking compensation from workers of the state."

He cautioned against deliberate misrepresentation of earnings and urged workers to report accurately the length of time employed and their earnings when filing a claim or unemployment compensation.

LABOR- 1940
OCCUPATION, WAGES, ETC.

FLORIDA

Tribune 4-14-40 Chicago, Ill.

Florida turpentine worker.

Pensacola Fla Journal
March 21, 1940

Florida's Migrant Workers

THE eastern seaboard also has some of the problems portrayed in "The Grapes of Wrath," according to an article appearing in the "Employment Security Review" prepared by C. W. E. Pittman, farm supervisor of the North Carolina unemployment compensation commission.

This article deals with the three movements out of Florida of strawberry pickers, potato diggers and tomato packers, who move up the coast as the seasons close at one place and open a little further north. Mr. Pittman traces them through North Carolina and on up to New York, although some even go on into New England states. Frequently, he points out, not all of the starters in Florida go all the way up the seaboard, but along the line some drop out and others are recruited to continue northward.

These migrations, following each other at intervals create numerous problems. Among them are social conditions in the communities in which these migrants stop education of children who frequently accompany parents housing in temporary quarters, and, primarily, producing an unbalance in employment along their route.

Usually the workers of this type travel in overloaded trucks or cars, either as an organized group or at least with a spokesman. The truck or cars, usually of the dilapidated type, are frequently used in hauling commodities thus competing with local truckers. These traveling workers usually reach a section at the beginning of the season and hire out by the day or by "piece-work," as a group, thus displacing local labor that would otherwise be used. Growers usually welcome them, however, for normally there would be the local problem of finding a sufficient number of workers to gather the crop during the short season in which it must be handled.

While this movement is of recent origin, it now involves thousands of workers and hundreds of employers. Most of the migrants are negroes and most of them are not particularly trained and require little training, except in cases of tomato wrappers, who attain a reasonably high degree of efficiency through orange wrapping in Florida.

The problem has already passed over state lines. Mr. Pittman suggests co-operation of employment services in the state touched, giving especial thought to crop maturities, local needs of labor, social and school problems presented, and studied efforts toward routing the migrants into areas where they are needed and in needed numbers.

Pensacola Fla News
January 2, 1941

NEGRO WORKERS HERE MAY GET WORK ON SUGAR

Clewiston Plant Is Seeking Laborers In Pensacola

Unemployed Negroes who desire employment in the sugar cane fields of the United States Sugar corporation at Clewiston may register at the Florida State Employment service office here, John H. Boschen manager of the Pensacola office said today.

Boschen pointed out that for the past several years many Pensacola workers have found profitable employment with this company, and a number of them have requested the employment service to make arrangements for their return this year.

It is realized that few men would be in a position to pay in advance for transportation to Clewiston, so that arrangements have been made whereby the company will send their truck to Pensacola, and small transportation charge may be paid by the workers out of their earnings after they start to work.

Unemployed negro men, in good physical condition, between the ages of 18 and 50 years will be acceptable, and any man who desires to go should report to the office in Pensacola, 400 South Palafox street, not later than noon of Saturday.

It is expected that the truck will leave Pensacola the first part of next week, and will pass through Milton and Crestview to pick up those desiring to go from Santa Rosa and Okaloosa counties.

The work will last from 60 to 90 days, and workers should average from$2 to$3 a day. Living quarters and beds will be furnished free. In order that arrangements can be made to accommodate all those who wish to go, Boschen urges that all those interested report to the Pensacola office not later than noon, Saturday, January 4.

Miami, Fla. Herald
February 11, 1940

Lowly Palmetto, Deft Hands Make Self-Help Program Work

Brown fingers flutter among stacks of palmetto leaves, and presto! they are transformed into perky hats, practical sandals and bath slippers, decorative handbags. baskets and rugs.

That's everyday magic at the headquarters of the Negro Welfare Federation, 1230 N. W. Third avenue.

All day long at the federation's community center, busy hands strip the palmetto leaves from the stiff and unwieldy midrib, and weave them into long strips of braid whose uniformity bespeaks experience and careful attention to the craft.

Other hands with equal skill form the braids into hats, some of which are decorated with raffia plumes, others with bright-colored raffia flowers. Matching bags are piled high with the hats on the long table which serves as a counter in the building, where the finished articles find a ready market.

Is Chest Agency

Thus the commonplace palmetto, free for the gathering throughout south Florida, becomes a means of creating income, making families self-supporting and independent, a major goal of the Negro Welfare Federation, one of the 19 agencies financed through the Community Chest.

Self-help project classes, a free employment service operated in connection with the Young Women's Christian Association, vocational guidance and numerous club activities make up the federation's program.

Every week, it holds an average of 35 club and association meetings, with rehabilitation of family finances and self-improvement the aim of all of them.

A negro division of the Community Chest campaign has been organized to conduct its own canvass of small business concerns in negro sections of Metropolitan Miami. Capt. J. E. Scott, a leader among local negroes, is chairman of the division, which has accepted a goal of $1,000 as its contribution toward the $295,000 sought by the Community Chest to finance the work of welfare and character-building agencies in Dade county for 1940.

Colored CCC Enrollee Rewarded for Valor

NOV 6 1940

The fortieth Civilian Conservation Corps certificate of valor to be bestowed, and first to be won by a Negro, has been awarded to Hilary C. Mears, enrollee from Lakeland, Fla., for saving the lives of two children during a recent flood in Louisiana.

The two children were swept into a deep canal from the roadway near Church Point, Louisiana, and Mears risked his own life to bring them to safety. The presentation was made by CCC Director James J. McEntee, and announced yesterday.

Washington Post

Pensacola, Fla. News
September 23, 1940

Industrialist Studies Reports On Proposed Shipbuilding Here

◆ ◆ ◆

With a report on a survey of the old Pensacola Shipbuilding company site before them for study, Clarence R. Bitting, of New York, president of the United States Sugar corporation of Clewiston, Fla., and his brother, William T. Bitting, left here yesterday considering the operation of shipbuilding plan there.

Bitting came here Thursday, received a report of his engieners, and left For Clewiston yesterday.

"I want to come in here if I can see my way clear toward establishing a permanent industry," said Bitting. "I do not want a flash in the pan. Not that I would expect the plant to operate continuously at peak load, but I would want to be able to convert the plant so it would make some other product if shipbuilding should drop off."

Bitting said that he wanted first to satisfy himself that the possibilities here were favorable and also that he was the right man to conduct the operations. "I do not want to come here and start something and hire a lot of workers, then have the bottom drop out and leave these people stranded on the city," he said. "I would not be doing the town any good or myself either in that event. But if I can start something that will furnish employment and will yield a profit on a long time operation I want to do so."

Bitting, who has established a reputation for being able to take unprofitable ventures and turn them into profitable ones, became interested in Pensacola shipbuilding possibilities after conversations with Rep. Millard Caldwell and later with L. Earle Thornton, city-county representative in Washington, who supplied him with considerable data on the local situation.

Caldwell and Thornton came here two weeks ago and called a meeting of bankers, leading business men and city officials, who decided to extend Bitting every aid possible. A committee consisting of F. M. Turner, J. H. Sherrill and J. E. D. Yonge was appointed to handle the matter.

Mayor L. C. Hagler, with the backing of the city council, then wrote Bitting, inviting him to come here and look over the situation and offering to furnish him with a site. The Bittings came last Thursday and remained until yesterday. Clarence dining with Caldwell in Milton yesterday evening before catching a train for Clewiston and William leaving for Philadelphia.

G. M. Dexter and H. H. Keller, engineers for the Bittings, came here Friday and made a thorough examination of the old shipbuilding site. Bitting also looked over other possible waterfront sites.

Before leaving, Bitting said that he could make no definite statement at this time and that until they went over the engineer's report and studied the cost of rehabilitation of the old site into an up-to-date yard he could not say what he would do.

"We certainly want a shipyard and the city council has agreed to go the limit in extending Mr. Bitting every co-operation," said Mayor Hagler.

Bitting's latest operations have been in rehabilitating the sugar industry at Clewiston in the Everglades. On agreement of the stockholders and creditors, then four and a half million dollars in the red, he took over the United States Sugar corporation in 1931, has put it on its feet and last year made a net profit of $1,294,890.

"The only thing I did not figure on was the government curtailing production," he said. "But in spite of this we have not done so badly. I am hoping that the sugar quota bill now pending will die and that will mean that Florida will be able to supply a large portion of the domestic demand."

At present the Florida quota is held to .94 of one per cent, while the beet sugar industry and the islands such as Puerto Rico and the Philippines get the bulk of the quota.

While accomplishing this financial stroke with sugar, Bitting also has developed a model colony of 11 villages in the Clewiston section for his workers, 90 per cent of whom are Negroes. He has more than doubled their cash pay, gives them free medical attention, free modern cottages, operates a store where they may purchase at cost, but where they do not have to buy, provides movies, wholesome recreation, hospitalization and many other advantages. Despite all this he has reduced his cost of production one-third, he said.

"The best indication of how the Negroes feel about it is that those who do not have permanent jobs and who work in cotton fields or elsewhere during our off seasons always want to come back," he said. "We have figures to show 85 per cent of them return for our harvest season."

Negro CCC Enrollee Rewarded For Heroism

NOV 5 1940

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Mears, on furlough during which he was home, dived into 12 feet of water in which there were two submerged barbed wire fences and brought the girl to safety. Reaching the shore, he discovered the boy was hanging on to the girl.

Pensacola News

New Definitions Are Outlined For White Collar Men Exempt From Wage-Hour Law's Action

Questions And Answers Touch On Some Of The Major Changes Brought Out In Response To Employer Requests For Clarification Of Regulations

By The Associated Press

WASHINGTON, Oct. 15.—The Wage-Hour Administration has revised its definitions of white collar workers who are exempt from the Wage-Hour Law, and hence need not be paid overtime compensation.

OCT 16 1940

The following questions and answers touch on some of the major changes brought out in response to employer requests for clarification and broadening of the white collar exemption regulations:

Q—What authority does the Wage-Hour Administration have to say who are exempt and who are covered by the act?

A—Congress specifically prescribed in the act that the minimum wage and maximum hours provisions shall not apply to any employe employed in a bona fide executive, administrative, professional or local retailing capacity or as an outside salesman as such terms are defined and delimited by the administrator.

Q—What changes were made in the revised definition respecting executive and administrative personnel?

A—The present single definition covering both executive and administrative personnel was remodeled into separate definitions for each category so that executives are treated generally as persons with managerial authority while administrative workers are regarded broadly as those connected with policy-making and policy-executing jobs.

Q—Why was it necessary to separate the definitions?

A—Many employers held that the existing single rule covering executive and administrative workers was so narrow in its application that many well paid workers such as personnel officers, bank tellers, credit managers and buyers, could not qualify for exemption.

Q—Who is an executive under the revised definition who need not be paid overtime compensation under the Wage-Hour Act, no matter how long he works each week?

A—He is the employe whose primary duty is management of the establishment, a department or a subdivision thereof, and who customarily directs the work of others, and who regularly exercises discretionary powers, and who has the authority to hire or fire and promote, and is paid at least $30 a week on a salary basis and who performs not more than 20 per cent of the type of work done by nonexempt employes.

Executive Must Meet All Requirements

Q—If he is paid $30 a week and meets at least one of the six foregoing requirements, is he an executive exempt from the act?

A—No. Each of the exemption requirements is joined by the word "and" and the employe must meet all the requirements to be an exempt executive.

Q—What are the important differences between the present and revised definition of executive.

A—The existing term "hire and fire" has been revised to read "hire or fire" to meet modern industrial practices where hiring is often left to a personnel officer. Another important change is the use of the term "20 per cent" in place of "substantial" to delimit the amount of time an executive may spend on nonexempt work without losing his exempted status.

Q—How does the 20 per cent limitation apply to the branch manager who has two men working under him and often has to pitch in and help with non-exempt work?

A—The revised rule specifically says it does not apply to a person who is in sole charge of an independent establishment or a physically separated branch establishment. Formerly these branch managers could not be exempt under the executive - administrative regulation.

Q—How does the 20 per cent limitation affect working foremen and working supervisors?

A—As a rule these types are considered nonexempt especially where they do the same type of work as that done by the workers under them to an extent greater than 20 per cent of the hours worked by nonexempt men. This would be true also of head mail and shipping room clerks, head bookkeepers and file room supervisors.

The Wage-Hour Agency holds that the best modern industrial practice limits the hours of working foremen as it does the hours of production workers.

Q—What is an exempt administrative employe?

A—He is one who is paid on a salary or fee basis at least $200 a month, who is engaged in nonmanual work which requires the exercise of discretion and independent judgment, and who meets one of three alternative requirements:

1. Regular and direct assistance to an executive or another exempt administrative employe.

2. Performs under only general supervision office or field work directly related to management policy or business operations, along specialized or technical lines requiring special training, experience or knowledge.

3. Execution of special assignments or tasks directly related to manage-policies or general business operations.

Q—To whom does the term administrative apply?

A—The term applies to a variety of miscellaneous but important functions in business such as those carried on by pesonnel managers, credit managers, buyers, safety directors, supervisors of machine tools, administrative assistants, claim agents, auditors, wage rate analysts and tax experts.

Salary Yardstick Adopted To Prevent Abuses

Q—Why did the Wage-Hour Agency adopt a salary yardstick for this definition?

A.—Wage-hour officials said it was adopted to prevent abuse of the definition by exempting a great many workers. The term "administrative" covers many diverse functions, some of which are difficult to identify. The agency decided then that since a title is of little or no aid in determining the importance of an employe, the most effective check on the validity of an exemption claim would be the payment of a monthly salary commensurate with the importance of the duties involved.

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Q.—Are all claim agents, for example, to be exempt from the law under the revised regulations?

A.—No. The agency says that a claim agent who settles damage claims that amount to no more than $10 or $15 is doing mere routine work, while the claim agent of a large company who has authority to use discretion and judgment in handling claims of thousands of dollars, obviously is engaged in work which vitally affects the welfare of his company. Here the salary yardstick will go far to determine which of the two is an exempt administrative worker.

Q.—What types of work are contemplated in the term "assistant to an executive or administrative employe?"

A.—The Wage-Hour Agency says there has been a steady increase in the use of persons to assist an executive without themselves having any executive authority, and mentions such typical titles as assistant to the president, confidential assistant, executive secretary, assistant to the general manager and administrative assistant.

Q.—What about the employe who is called a special messenger. Isn't he an assistant to the president or the general manager?

A.—The revised regulation draws the line between routine mechanical duties and the true administrative employe by requiring that the exempted employe's work requires the use of "discretion and independent judgment." The salary limit also is a pertinent factor in this case.

Q.—What type of work comes under the second alternative requirement which calls for the use of specialized or technical knowledge?

A.—This type of work is done by advisory specialists and consultants such as experts in taxes, insurance, sales research, wage rates, investments and foreign exchange. It also covers the heads of so-called functional departments such as bank tellers, credit managers, purchasing agents, personnel and safety directors and labor relations directors.

Q.—Who come within the third alternative classification?

A.—Traveling auditors, lease buyers, traveling investory men, field representatives and location managers for motion picture companies. They carry out special assignments related to management policies and requiring individual activity and judgment. Also included are assistant buyers, customers' brokers in stock exchange firms, account executives in advertising firms.

Q.—Are skilled mechanics and tool and die makers who are highly paid included in the scope of the administrative employe exemption?

A.—No. They are engaged in manual work and are generally paid on an hourly basis with established overtime rates.

Q.—What requirements are laid down in the revised regulations for the exemption of workers in the professional category?

A.—The Wage-Hour agency has laid down five tests for an exempted professional worker plus a requirement that the worker must be paid at the rate of at least $200 a month on a salary or fee basis.

Q.—What are the major changes in the new definition?

A.—The adoption of the salary yardstick and the inclusion of an alternative test to cover workers in the artistic professions.

Q.—Briefly, what are the professional worker tests?

A.—They must be based on work predominantly intellectual and varied in character as distinct from routine work, and requiring the constant exercise of discretion and judgment and of such a character that the output or result cannot be standardized in relation to a given period of time, and must do no more than 20 per cent nonexempt work.

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Stipulations Are Made For Educational Work

In addition, a fifth requirement says the work must require a knowledge of an advance type in a field of science or learning, as distinguished from a general academic education, or must be predominantly original and creative in a recognized field of artistic endeavor as opposed to work which can be produced with general manual and intellectual ability, and the result of which depends primarily on the invention, imagination and talent of the employe.

Q.—Is the $200 salary alone sufficient for an exemption under this definition?

A.—No. Wage-Hour officials hold that in addition to the salary requirement, an exempted professional worker must meet all of the first four tests and one of the two requirements in the fifth test.

Q.—Does this salary test apply to doctors and lawyers?

A.—No. It does not apply to employers who hold a valid license to practice law or medicine or any of either branches, and who is actually engaged in such practice.

Q.—What is the the effect of the professional worker definition?

A.—Its effect is to exempt the learned professions from the law, and to set up new standards for the exemption of workers in the artistic professions like writers, actors and musicians.

Q.—Why was a provision necessary for the exemption of workers in the so-called artistic professions?

A.—Because the advanced type of education test set up for the learn-

ed professors would not include persons in the artistic professions.

Q.—What type of work in the artistic professions is covered by the requirement that the work must be "in a recognized field of artistic endeavor"?

A.—Music, writing, theater and the plastic and graphic arts.

Q.—Who would be covered by the requirement that the work must be "predominantly original and creative"?

A.—This would apply to musicians, composers, conductors, soloists, painters and cartoonists doing original and creative work. It would not include the retoucher of photographs or the animator of mation picture cartoons.

Q.—Who are covered in the field of writing and newspaper editorial work?

A.—Essayists, novelists and scenario writers and holders of responsible, highly paid occupations in newspaper editorial offices and advertising agencies, such as an editorial columnist.

Q.—Are newspaper reporters receiving $200 or more a month exempt by the professional worker definition?

A.—The Wage-Hour Agency says it depends upon the character of work being done by the newspaper employe.

Q.—What is an outside salesman?

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A.—He is employed away from his employer's place of business making sales or obtaining orders or contracts for the use of facilities for which a consideration will be paid by the client or customer, and who does no more than 20 per cent of the type of work done by non-exempt employes.

Q.—What important revision is contained in this definition of an exempted outside salesman?

A.—Before its revision the definition was generally limited to sales of tangible goods such as coffee, shoes, cigars, automobiles, stocks and bonds. It was revised by adding terms to cover the taking of orders and sales for the use of facilities. This includes selling radio time, the solicitation of advertising for newspapers and other publications, and solicitation of freight business for railroads and other transportation agencies.

Q.—What about the exemption of outside buyers, sales promotion and missionary men?

A.—They are not exempt by the outside salesman definition.

Q.—What about the driver-salesman who calls on merchants periodically?

OCT 16 1940

A.—These driver or route salesmen are excluded from the exemption in the existing definition, but in the revised rule, they are exempted as outside salesmen.

Q.—Are the revised regulations retroactive in any way after they become effective Oct. 24?

A.—No.

RED CAPS UNION SEEKS NEW PROBE OF WAGE-HOUR LAW

OCT 27 1940

Establishing a new organizational tempo for concerted action, the United Transport Service Employees of America girded itself for a new and added drive against the discriminatory 10c baggage fee of the railroad companies, this week when a resolution was introduced in the United States Senate calling for a comprehensive investigation of the cause and effects of the baggage charge.

Introduced at the request of the U. T. S. E. A., and the Wage and Hour Administration by Senator Elbert D. Thomas of Utah, the resolution was referred to the senate committee on Education and Labor for further study. Senator Thomas is chairman of the committee and UTSEA officials believe that a favorable report will be made when the resolution is presented back to the Senate.

Conferring with the UTSEA, Secretary-Treasurer John L. Yancey and General Counsel Leon M. Despres this week in Chicago, Senator Thomas stated that he has asked Senator Alben W. Barkley of Kentucky to introduce for him this resolution directing the investigation into the practice of having red caps collect 10c for each parcel.

Charges have been made that the practice has been detrimental to the red caps resulting in many discharges, Senator Thomas said. "The resolution asks that the Wage and Hour Division investigate to determine whether the plan violates the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938," he said, "The investigation is to determine whether the plan can be regulated by the labor act, if it cannot, we want to know what legislation can regulate it."

"Since the plan has gone into effect there have been many complaints that many red caps have been discharged or otherwise discriminated against because the 10c charges do not cover the cost to the railroad or terminal company of the minimum wage payments." He said the investigation will determine whether the railways' plan is acting to the benefit or detriment of the red caps. "The purpose of the Wage and Hour Act was to help the low-wage workers. It is therefore of primary interest to the country to see how this Act may be affecting various labor groups."

The introduction of the resolution before the U. S. Senate follows closely the recent hearing before the Interstate Commerce Commission at Cincinnati, Ohio, on the legality of the baggage fee. The Interstate Commerce Commission hearings were based on a complaint filed against the Cincinnati Union Terminal Company, and at this hearing, the UTSEA was able to produce evidence of the many discriminatory methods used against railroad passengers in the operation of the fee system contrary to the provisions of the Interstate Commerce Act.

Widespread efforts on the part of the railroads to absolve themselves of the blame for this charge by seeking to direct it against the Union and the Wage and Hour Administration, lead the UTSEA officials, through the Wage and Hour Administration to seek the Senate action to determine the extent of the methods used by the railroads to deny red caps the full benefits of the law and at the same time increase the cost of travel to the public.

In a recent communication to Colonel Philip Fleming, Wage and Hour Administrator, Pres. Willard S. Townsend called attention to the many violations of the Act under the present system of compensating red caps and indicated that the seriousness of the matter demanded an investigation of the entire situation.

RESOLUTION TO PROBE RED CAPS' WAGE SET-UP IS OFFERED IN SENATE

OCT 26 1940

Wage and Hour Division of Labor Department Would Investigate Complaints that Many Are Being Fired.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Oct. 24—Senator Alben W. Barkley, of Kentucky, the Majority Leader, offered in the Senate last Monday a resolution directing the Administrator of the Wage and Hour Division of the Labor Department to investigate the plan and practices adopted by railroads and terminal companies under which red caps are being paid.

Under this plan red caps are paid wages at the rate of 30 cents an hour, the minimum rate prescribed in the wage and hour law but are required to collect from each passenger a charge of 10 cents a bag or parcel carried.

SAID TO HAVE RECEIVED NUMEROUS COMPLAINTS

The administrator is said to have received numerous complaints that under this plan many red caps have been discharged because of their failure to earn by the charge of 10 cents a bag or parcel sums sufficient to cover the cost to the railroads or terminal companies of the minimum wage payments.

The resolution would direct the Administrator of the wage and hour law to ascertain and report to the Senate the extent to which the plan violates the letter or spirit of the wage hour law, the extent to which it is susceptible to regulation under the wage and hour law, and what legislation should be enacted for the purpose of regulating this plan under the wage and hour law.

Senator Barkley offered the resolution for Senator Elbert D. Thomas, Democrat, of Utah, who was absent from the Senate.

LABOR 1940
OCCUPATION, WAGES, ETC.

AS I SEE IT

By C. W. RICE

Radical Labor Leaders Public Enemy No. 1 To Defense Program; Strikes On Defense Work Should Be Outlawed; Government Contracts Should Not Be Awarded Unions That Discriminate Agianst Workers On Account Of Race

The clause in the draft bill calling for conscription of industries in the defense program caused much debate before passage of the bill. The bill, as passed, gives the government the right to take over any industry that will not comply with regulations of the defense board pending action of the court.

AS I SEE IT the bill should be included a regulation prohibiting labor strikes on the construction of defense projects. If the old saying "Judging the future by the past" is true, radical labor leaders and racketeers are going to take advantage of the defense work to further their cause. Several strikes have already been threatened in important industries where defense contracts have been let. Labor organizers are working overtime to get unemployed workers to join their unions so as to be eligible for employment on defense projects.

Under the present regulations the government has no jurisdiction over the type of labor that the contractor might hire but it is usually understood that the contractor must deal with the union. So, it is obvious that the more work created by the government the fatter the unions will get and the more power they will gain.

Labor union leaders are playing a very active part in this year's politics as in 1936 when the CIO Mine Workers' Union put a half million dollars in President Roosevelt's campaign chest. This year it is noticeable that the president opened his political campaign by addressing the convention of the powerful Teamsters' Union, the richest and probably the strongest labor unit in the American Federation of Labor. It is said to represent over 400,000 workers.

The president's tie-up with the Teamsters' union is not very encouraging to the Negro. It is this union that discriminates against Negro teamsters and drivers to the extent that a few if any members of the Negro race are permitted to drive beer trucks. At Houston it is estimated that Negroes consume about forty per cent of all beverages and still a Negro is forbidden to drive trucks in Negro sections for his own people. The reason is that beer truck drivers can earn all the way from $22.50 to $50.00 per week under the union set-up. The unions decided this was too much money for Negroes to make. Not only is this true in the beer industry but as fast as other truckdrivers are organized, the Negro is excluded.

As labor unions that bar Negroes control most of the work in high pay and skilled brackets and will have control of defense work, there is little hope for Negroes to get any appreciable share of the defense work.

AS I SEE IT this is a serious situation and is fraught with more danger to destroy the economic welfare of the race than any other scheme launched against him since his emancipation. No group of people can enjoy life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness when the government permits another group to deny them the privilege and opportunity of working for a livelihood on projects created by the government solely on account of color. Discrimination of Negro workers on the Housing Project is a striking example of the ruthlessness of unions in denying workers the right to ply their skill on account of color.

There are said to be 150 Negro craftsmen in Houston, some graduates of Prairie View, Tuskegee, Hampton and even white schools. They can not join the Building Trades Union because the union rituals forbid Negro membership. Because they are not members of the union they cannot work on the projects even though the Housing Authority, in its specifications, designated that at least five per cent of the skilled work should go to Negroes.

There are growing complaints of this and many other flagrant injustices and violations of constitutional rights heaped upon the Negro by organized labor.

AS I SEE IT such practices are un-American and if labor continues them, it will dig its own grave. Labor above all should practice democracy. If American liberties are lost, it will be labor that will suffer most.

Let us hope that American labor unions will set their own house in order, get rid of racketeers, trouble makers and professional politicians. Let labor lead the way as a shining example of justice and fair play to all regardless of race, creed or color. Let labor's hands be not charged with the guilt of thwarting our great National Defense program.

URBAN PLANTS MUST TAKE THE HIRED MAN

Farm Population Suffers From Arkansas Job Dearth

STATE NEEDS FACTORIES

Monopoly Prices, Lack Of Education, Inadequate Small Business Sesearch, Haulage Costs Prevent Prosperity

Special to The Commercial Appeal

FAYETTEVILLE, Ark., Oct. 13.—The loss of much of the foreign market for cotton and the cessation of expansion in the domestic demand for farm products makes it essential to find urban jobs for a considerable part of the Arkansas farm population, according to the Arkansas Business Bulletin, published by the College of Business Administration at the University of Arkansas.

The change from agricultural to urban jobs, P. W. Milam said in an article in the bulletin, would result in a great increase in the production of goods in terms of utility and in the doubling of income of agricultural workers securing urban jobs. Mr. Milam listed the most important factors preventing the higher incomes that would result from this transfer as follows:

High Prices Cut Sales

Monopoly prices (excessively high prices) for certain goods and services which cause a low level of sales and thus restrict employment opportunities.

Monopoly prices per hour for certain labor groups which also curtail employment opportunities.

Lack of educational opportunities which result in inefficient workers and managers and by increasing manufacturing costs tend to restrict industrial expansion.

Economic inertia which tends to cause owners of capital to expand their production facilities in their home regions although slightly greater profits may be available in more distant regions.

Transportation Costs High

Excessive transportation costs which restrict industrial expansion by eliminating the more distant markets.

Lack of research facilities for small business concerns, which places the typically small business of Arkansas at a disadvantage in competing with the larger interstate firms.

Despite these numerous handicaps, Mr. Milam said, manufacturing in Arkansas is growing at a more rapid rate than in the United States as a whole. As a rule, he added, the most rapid expansion is occurring in the industries catering to local markets rather than to out-of-state markets.

"There is much concern at the present time over the possibilty that it will be necessary to use such large amounts of labor and capital to produce war materials that the production of goods for personal consumption will be decreased and thus a lower standard of living will result," Mr. Milam wrote.

South Needs War Plants

"The payment of a federal bonus for the location of new plants to produce war materials in the South would make possible the production of large amounts of war material without seriously interferring with the production of consumer goods. There are many laborers in the South that could be transferred from agricultural jobs to jobs in war material industries without any appreciable decrease in the production of desirable consumer goods. The cost of such a program could be largely offset by a reduction in farm subsidies.

"Billions of dollars in war materials have been contracted for and arrangements have been made for the construction of many new plants but Arkansas with a great surplus of labor has received no awards worthy of mention. The excuse for such action is the necessity for speed, but this argument is overworked," Milam concluded.

CITIZENS WANT RACE IN HIGH P. O. POSITIONS

NOV 10 1940

On March 6 the Chicago Council of Negro Organizations presented a petition of adjustment to Postmaster Kruetgen of Chicago on behalf of the Chicago Branch, National Alliance of Postal Employees.

This petition set forth the discriminatory practices in the local office insofar as promotions to supervisors and preferred assignments are concerned. Preferred assignments refers to clerks-in-charge, assistant-to-foreman, or detail clerks.

Out of more than four hundred supervisory officials in the Chicago Post Office there are only eight supervisors and one foreman of custodians among the colored group. These are not placed in letter mail but are placed in charge of equipment arm guard, etc. This is about 2% of the supervisory personnel.

There are approximately 15,000 employees in the Chicago Post Office and our group represents about 20% (3,000). This shows that in regular employees Negroes have a high quota, but insofar as advance positions, the number is unusually low. Under detail clerks, assistant-to-foreman, number only one out of several hundred.

This condition has existed in the Chicago Post Office for many years.

G. N. T. Gray, National Welfare Director of the National Alliance of Postal Employees, speaking at the conference with Postmaster Kruetgen last March said, "It is a falacy that whites and Negroes cannot work amicably together." He cited an instance in New York where a colored superintendent had 110 employees, only ten of whom were Negroes and who carried on the work in a most satisfactory manner.

Gray named several other cites —St. Louis, Philadelphia, Columbus, Cincinnati, and Baltimore, having colored superintendents; some in very large offices. He said that in Baltimore a colored foreman is rated as one of the best. He is in charged of a mixed crew of 40 men. He cited two instances where clerks-in-charge were recently appointed in a southern state on the railway mail service. In Indianapolis the scheme examiner is a Negro.

Chicago should have 25 supervisors, it was pointed out ,or more and about 10 detail clerks, a superintendent of one carrier station in the Negro district (Hyde Park Station) and foremen in the Jackson Park and Twenty-second Street stations. There should also be Negro clerks in the finance windows at the Hyde Park and Jackson Park stations, and a field foreman to represent the Negro force.

UNDER THE MICROSCOPE

By E. WASHINGTON RHODES

SKILLED JOBS FOR COLORED AMERICANS

NOV 14 1940

FOR THIS WEEK I had planned to write about a lovable tom cat which, uninvited, has come to stay with us. Where he came from nobody knows. At first he was timid, then he became bolder when he learned that only kind hands would rub his head and give him fresh milk.

RHODES

I wanted to write about this cat because he loves with such great fervor. Then, too, I am satisfied that everyone wants a let-down after hearing and reading so much campaign stuff. However, Floyd Logan, who never lets down in his fight for educational equality in the league which he heads, called me on the telephone this morning and started a trend of thought that deserves expression forthwith.

It has to do with vocational training in our public schools. It appears that applicants for training are accepted on the basis of their employment opportunity. In other words, if the students are acceptable to those who control employment, they are permitted to secure special training. If, in the opinion of the school officials, the applicant will be unable to secure the kind of work for which he seeks training his application will be turned down.

At first blush, that sounds like a reasonable position for the school officials to take. But let us go deeper into this matter as it affects colored people. Because of custom, prejudice or downright stupidity, colored people have been denied an opportunity to work in many skilled trades. It is only natural for the school officials to conclude that it would be a waste of time for colored people to learn these trades because they will not be permitted to use their skill after acquiring it. If that position is followed to its logical conclusion, then forever and eternally colored citizens will never be permitted to secure jobs in certain skilled occupations, because they are not trained. They will never be trained, because they do not have an opportunity to get the work in those occupations.

This position is silly, stupid, dangerous, and unfair. Colored citizens should, in fact must, gamble on employment opportunity. Despite the fact that certain occupations are now barred to them, they must seek training in those occupations. It is better to "waste" time, if waste it is, to learn skilled trades than to "waste" time looking for unskilled work. The demand today is for skilled workers. Those who are trained get work. Those who are not are idle.

I, therefore, urge and plead with young colored Americans to fight for a chance to become highly skilled in every occupation. Laugh at those who say there is not a chance for colored skilled workers. Today it may be difficult. Tomorrow, who knows what will happen? It is dead certain that if colored Americans are not trained, they can not get skilled employment. It is far better to take a chance on getting work with a well trained brain and skilled fingers than without these attributes.

And to the school officials: Let down the bars! If young colored people are willing to gamble by learning a trade which they may not be permitted to use, they should be commended for their courage, not barred from learning. Permit them to learn all they can about everything they can. Perhaps America will come to its senses and give them their chance.

(The views expressed in the above column do not necessarily reflect the editorial policy of this newspaper.—Editor's Note.)

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Regardless Of Color Or Collar

George S. Schuyler, well-known Negro author, writing in *The Pittsburgh Courier* on the tribute paid to the chef at West Virginia State College, gives sound advice to Negroes from which white people can also profit. Commenting on the honor paid the Negro chef at the Negro college, he said:

Many of our college folk are inclined to be snobbish and to consider themselves superior to Negroes who do not belong to the white-collar group. Although most of our parents were cooks, porters, red caps, janitors and maids, there is a tendency to look down on those who make their living in the service fields. Such a thing as giving a testimonial dinner to a humble, dependable and trustworthy service employe at a Negro college is almost unprecedented. Many white colleges in the South have honored Negro employes for long and honest service, but few Negro colleges.

He added:

At a time when colored folk are wondering how they will hold their own in the field of service against increasing job competition, they can do no better than to study the career of a man like Andrew Wicks. It has been my observation that Negroes' jobs are fairly safe whenever they are efficient, capable and dependable. White people have often said that Negroes are naturally gifted for the field of service, but the truth is that they are no more gifted than any other people, and often less so. Belligerence, bumptiousness, insolence and inefficiency have lost as many jobs for Negroes as any other cause. Men like Mr. Wicks have always had jobs and always will, regardless of hard times.

At a time when many young Negroes are graduating from colleges this is straight talk to them from a member of their own race. It is sound talk, too. And there is nothing essentially racial about it. It makes sense for all of us of every race, color, creed, college degree, or white collar or no collar at all.

Work of the Employment Security Program in Absorbing Negroes into Occupational, Other Fields Cited

By LAWRENCE A. OXLEY

Today, the Negro, as well as other groups in our country, feels the effect of a mechanized industrial and agricultural society. His social and economic life has been drastically changed and his search for suitable employment, sufficient earnings, and employment security is a major problem.

During the period 1920-1940 there were two distinct population movements of Negroes. Approximately two million Negroes migrated from the South to urban industrial centers in the Midwest, and to cities along the North Atlantic Seaboard. About the time that this movement was taking place, one million Negroes from the rural areas of the South moved to the larger urban industrial centers of the South. Thus, today large numbers of Negro workers face a dual problem of combating the ill-effects of the depression and making adequate occupational adjustment to a more complex, industrial social order.

How has the Negro fared in his search for employment in this new or changing order? What steps have been taken to alleviate his economic stress? As with the unemployed of other racial groups the Negro has been forced by economic necessity to look to his state and federal government for assistance in finding productive, continuing employment. To the 1,500 public employment offices the Negro has turned for occupational guidance and job placement assistance.

Kinds of Job Openings

Employment opportunities for Negroes may be said to fall into three categories. First, there are the jobs in which Negro workers vie with white workers. Usually these jobs are unskilled and semi-skilled—the lower bracket industrial occupations. It is in this class of jobs that Negro workers have made their greatest advance along with white workers. Here also, however, they have experienced the greatest losses since the depression. Many Negroes feel that they are "the last to be hired and the first to be fired."

The second category includes the jobs in which Negro workers formerly had a virtual monopoly. They represent the extremely low-paid jobs in the industrial scheme as well as those considered as having the least prestige. Domestic service is typical of this field. At one time the Negro domestic seldom had to compete against the white worker. Even in this field today, however, the Negroes' job opportunities are perhaps decreasing for in many states young white girls are being trained for domestic service. In the industrial field many of the lower-paid jobs originally filled by the Negro worker, are now done by machine. Ditch-digging is representative of this type of work. Today a mechanical trench-digger supplants many pick-and-shovel men.

A third category may be designated as that class of jobs in which few Negroes are today employed. Included in this group are the jobs in which employers are unaccustomed to seeing Negroes work. Here also are the jobs in which white workers sometimes offer decided objections to the employment of Negroes, and those occupations in which Negroes are not permitted to secure training or apprenticeship. Negroes are restricted in employment in other types of jobs by the employing policies of some labor unions.

The services performed by public employment offices are passing through a period of transition and of increasing public scrutiny of their objectives, their methods, and their accomplishments; and it is significant that efforts are being made to create sound policies and to formulate suitable criteria for measuring employer-employee needs. It is recognized that the responsibility of every public employment office is to give equal placement assistance to all workers and to refer job applicants to employers solely on the worker's ability to perform the job satisfactorily and meet the employer's qualifications. Within this fundamental principle there is still room, however, to give particular consideration and attention to the employment needs of the Negro group.

Negroes in Employment Security Program

The Bureau of Employment Security is interested in all aspects of Negro occupational development and in cooperative efforts to study this problem. Recently the Negro Placement Service completed a survey which had as its broad purpose the evaluation of services to Negroes by employment security offices in 15 selected states. Eight and one-half millions, approximately two-thirds of the total number of Negroes in the United States, live in the area studied. More specifically, the purpose of the survey was to describe in the case of each city the socio-economic and racial environment in which the local employment service operated the industrial opportunities available; the size and movement of Negro population and workers with their implication in the general labor market; job opportunities for Negroes and depression fluctuation of these opportunities; the general inclination of employers, and of organized labor toward the employment of Negro workers; and the attitude of employment security personnel toward the referral of Negroes to job openings for which they are qualified.

The survey revealed the need for an intelligent awareness on the part of employment security personnel relative to the employment needs of the Negro applicant, and there was also indicated the need for a revision of employment security field-visiting techniques and procedures, if the Negro worker is to fully share in job openings on a broader occupational base. In an effort to meet these and other problems in the field of Negro placement activities, the Negro Placement Service functions as an administrative unit of the Special Placement Problems Section in the Bureau of Employment Security.

The chief objectives of the Negro Placement Service are the aiding and advising of employing with placement problems of Negro applicants and the stimulating of an awareness, at the federal and state level, of the special problems of the Negro worker in his search for adequate, productive, and continuing employment. These provide the basis for the following objectives:

(1) To provide a more effective and efficient means for employment security personnel throughout the nation to stimulate and increase the placement of qualified Negro workers in regular gainful employment;

(2) To make it worth while for Negroes to register and utilize the Service;

(3) To promote a greater cognizance on the part of Negro workers of the importance of working toward maximum proficiency on a job regardless of occupational classification;

(4) To stimulate the gathering of factual information on the types of employment and the degree to which Negroes are employed, with particular reference to local placement office activity;

(5) To suggest and assist in the preparation of statistics on population, relief, gainful workers and special skills of Negro workers;

(6) To interpret to Negro community agencies, organizations, employers and the public generally, the policies, program and practices of the Bureau of Employment Security.

In many states, Negroes have received eligible rating in merit and civil service tests and have been appointed to employment security staffs in 22 states. Negro personnel are classified as senior managers, assistant managers senior and junior claims examiners, senior and junior interviewers, vocational counsellors, receptionists, typists, clerks telephone operators, messengers and custodial workers. These Negro workers are employed in separate divisional offices in some cities

and in mixed offices in other cities Analysis of the report is significant and has value as marking a beginning point in measuring the extent to which trained Negroes participate in the employment security program. Mr. W. Frank Persons, former director of the United States Employment Service has stated:

"Careful observation of workers in the Service over a period of years leads me to the opinion that Negro workers have proved themselves efficient in every position in the service to which they have been appointed. These Negro appointees have contributed to a better understanding of the problems of unemployment as they affect their particular group, and have aided in interpreting the Service to the public."

Negro Employment Conferences

As a part of a nation-wide effort to alleviate the problem of unemployment problems, conferences on employment problems of the Negro are being held in cooperation with state officials and other interested individuals in a number of states. During 1939 and the first six months of 1940, conferences were held in Arkansas, Illinois, (Metropolitan Chicago), Connecticut, Kentucky, Massachusetts, Missouri, New Hampshire, North Carolina, Ohio, Rhode Island, and West Virginia. In each of these states, the conference has had the approval, active support, and participation of the governor, state labor or industrial commissioner, members of the state employment security agency (including the director and staff of the state employment service), representatives of labor, and civic and religious groups, white and colored.

Additional conferences are scheduled for California, Delaware, Indiana, Michigan, New York (Metropolitan New York and Buffalo), Oklahoma, South Carolina, Texas, and Virginia. Subsequent conferences may be arranged in other states in which there are proportionately large Negro populations and acute problems of unemployment peculiar to this racial group. Such states include Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Nebraska, New Jersey, and Tennessee.

Much good has come from these conferences inasmuch as all responsible persons in attendance have recognized the need of a realistic approach to the problem and have mapped a definite plan of action. A major program objective of these conferences has been the reconsideration of the employment security program by staff members in state agencies in terms of opportunities in the labor market, occupational skills, and employment needs of the Negro. The sumarizing report of each conference findings committee has included a compilation of the facts, findings, and conclusions derived from the several prepared conference papers and discussions, together with constructive recommendations to assist the Negro worker.

The program of the Negro Placement Service has been greatly enhanced in value due to the conference idea being generally accepted and organized by the state or local groups, as a state or local program and responsibility. The local sponsoring group has included white and Negro leaders active in labor, industry, education and civic life. Wherever practicable, the conference has been held in a government building and the participants in the program selected in consultation with the governor, industrial or labor commissioner, representative of the employment security agency and a small planning committee composed of representatives of industry, labor, the public, and the Negro. For each conference invitations have been issued from the office of the governer; and the number of conference delegates has fluctuated from 125 in Arkansas to about 500 in Chicago.

It is far too early to determine what concrete values have accrued from these conferences, in bringing an awareness of Negro employment needs and stimulating action in solving this part of the general unemployment problem.

Charleston, S. C. News & Courier
November 25, 1940
U. S. Labor

To The News and Courier:

Negro laborers on the farm have a proverb which is a bit inelegant but nevertheless expresses a great truth. When one of them has acquired a watermelon, or other tasty morsel, and refuses to share it, the others say: "Go ahead, big boy, but remember, de wind don't blow on de same dog all de time".

Throughout all history we find that the group in power has taken no thought for the shifting winds of fortune and thus has hastened its own downfall.

From the beginning of the industrial revolution, capital has exploited labor, worked women and children long hours for small pay, regarded labor as a commodity and failed to recognize labor's customer role. But now the winds have shifted, labor is in the saddle and with the help of an indulgent administration, is riding hard. Punitive legislation has been enacted and employes strait-jacketed. Once again history repeats itself, and labor, heedless of shifting winds of fortune, takes all manner of advantages of its privileges. Comically, while the nation is building airplanes to defend labor (along with the rest of the country) the union wants more wages and the laborers go on strike. Do they forget that these planes are being manufactured to protect this country against a philosophy of government which tolerates neither unions nor wage disputes?

Wisely the government is conscripting the youth of the land. But will anyone defend the right of a carpenter or plumber to draw one dollar and more per hour for building camps for men who are to earn a little less than one dollar a day while training to defend these same carpenters and plumbers?

Shall we say "Now little conscriptee don't you cry, your neighbors are getting high wages, while you prepare to die"? Of course the nation can draft its trigger fingers and can it not also draft its hammer and wrench fingers? If the people need the skill of the land in this emergency then these mechanics should serve for a subsistence wage, and if the people can pay high wages for short hours, then they should give this money to the soldiers. High wages and short hours are very good and doubtless a social gain, but, as saith the Holy writ, "There is a time to every purpose", and a serious national emergency is certainly not the time for social gains. Those who go on strike on defense orders may well ponder these words from the Sermon on the Mount, "And with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again".

As the haughty tyrants of old paved the way for Democracy even so today, organized labor is, by its arrogance weaving the noose of public opinion that will finally hang it.

JAMES REAVES.

Alcolu.,

The Orange Man

DEC 9 1940

This man—a colored man—was an orange merchant. A very small merchant, to be sure, but a merchant just the same. He was impressive in talking of the merits of his fruit. It was clear that he was selling, not asking anything. He was offering full value—unusual value.

But his prospect happened not to need any oranges— was, in fact, possessed of a large supply. However, he did want to encourage the basket merchant.

"How much profit do you make on a dozen?" he asked. The merchant did not know exactly, but he was sure that it was not very much. He had to pay high for his merchandise and sell on a short margin. His customers wouldn't buy anything but the exceptionally good stuff they knew they could get from him.

"Do you suppose that 10 cents would cover your profit?"

"Oh, yes, sir, I wouldn't make that much."

A dime was tendered the merchant. The man, getting along in years now, hardly seemed to know what was meant. He did not take the coin.

"But I'm not begging, boss."

It took some insistence to get him to accept his profit.

* * *

When, at length the man had yielded, however, he still stood by the desk, anxious, apparently, to do something besides repeat his thanks, which he expressed quietly, not unctuously. Finally he said:

"Boss, I've got some fine grapes here." He extended a bunch. They were fine. "Wouldn't you just take 'em and eat 'em. I'm sure you'd like 'em."

"No, thanks, I happen not to care much for grapes."

Still the man was not ready to go. Still his thanks were not enough.

"Here then, boss," he said, putting a fine orange down on the desk. "Here's an orange. I knows you haven't got none of your own oranges here in the office with you. Take this and enjoy it from me."

There was no refusing the orange, of course. For one thing, the man was gone before it could be returned. And it was a fine orange. It would doubtless have brought a nickel at least.

Birmingham, Ala., Age-Herald

This merchant had insisted on sharing his profit. He was not asking anything, he was going to give something, too.

* * *

The little incident touched tender places in the heart and set a mind off on a wistful train of thought.

It seemed to suggest so eloquently, so poignantly, that it is only opportunity that we must find for so many of our fellows.

It is not charity that many men seek. Be very certain of that, even though you are one who says that there are "lots of no-'count" people in the world and you can't indulge them. For every one of these, there are many others who are only looking for a chance. And there are millions valiantly struggling to make a chance for themselves.

It is the long lack of a decent chance that finally drives some men to desperation. It is want of a fair chance that produces most of the conflict and misery of the world.

It is not enough for us to provide charity, though that, of course, can be imperative.

DEC 9 1940

It is not enough to set up stop-gap systems of subsistence work.

The world must make it possible for all men to make decent lives for themselves. All other jobs—economic, political and social—are subordinate to that job.

WPA TO GO ON "13-MONTH YEAR BASIS"

The Work Projects Administration in Illinois will go on a "13-month year" basis in June, it was announced today by Charles E. Miner, State Administrator. In order that this plan may be effectively inaugurated, it will become necessary to make several important changes in the present system, Mr. Miner declared. Principal benefits will accrue to the employees on the program, who will receive 26 pay checks per year in place of 24, as at present. Another feature of the plan assures WPA project employees throughout the state of Illinois they will be paid on regular pay days instead of staggered dates.

"This means employees will receive a check for 14 days work on the same day of the week, every other week. For example, if the employee's pay period ends Tuesday, he will receive his check Wednesday of the next week and on every other Wednesday of the next week and on every other Wednesday, thereafter unless Wednesday falls on a holiday, in which event this check will arrive Thursday," Mr. Miner said.

As an example, a WPA worker who works the full scheduled hours without losing any time, and without making up any allowable hours, now receives $39 monthly—two checks for $19.50 each for 65 hours of work in each half month, adding up to 1,560 hours and $468 a year. After the change he will receive $18 every two weeks for 60 hours work, adding up to exactly 1,560 hours and $468 a year, the same as before. Other monthly rates of pay will be subject to similar changes.

George H. Field, Regional Director, is very much interested in the change from 24 to 26 weeks, it was revealed today.

"I have personally reviewed the operation of the Finance Division in Michigan where this plan has been in use for sometime and I am confident it is a change which will do the entire program a great deal of good. Because of my conviction in this matter, I have recommended the states of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and Missouri take immediate action to perform the preliminary work necessary to adopt the bi-weekly payroll plan."

Some advantages to be gained by the new method are listed as follows: Elimination of congestion of payroll details; more equal distribution of volume of documents; elimination of overtime work by state office employees caused by congestion and irregular flow of documents; setting of definite pay days for workers in place of calendar dates; assists workers in budgeting incomes; standardizes job work day schedules; simplifies scheduling of workers on projects as bi-weekly periods have some number of work days; reduces transportation costs, etc.

Pullman Porter Measure Withdrawn From Senate

WASHINGTON—(ANP)—Withdrawal from the Senate of the bill which would do away with the porter-in-charge practice of the Pullman company following the objections raised to the bill was announced this week by Senator Sherman Minton of Indiana, sponsor of the measure.

"I have always been a friend of labor," said Senator Minton in an interview Saturday morning, "and when I introduced this bill at the request of the Pullman Conductors association I did so in full faith that the bill had the approval of the Pullman porters.

"Hearings on the bill were conducted and there were no objections raised by the Pullman porters or any of their representatives. However, when the bill was reported out of the committee favorably, the objections rained down on me. And then they didn't seem to come from the Pullman porters but a racial issue had been made of it, and many ministers and other civic organizations showered protests upon me.

"Basing my beliefs on a speech made by Philip Randolph in which he discussed the affair and seemed to be in favor of discontinuing 'porters-in-charge,' I went ahead with my work on the bill.

"After the bill had been favorably reported on, then Mr. Randolph, Mr. Totten and a Mr. Patterson came in to see me, and I told them I would be glad to have them appear before any further hearings that would be held."

However, Mr. Randolph's earlier addresses, in which he had attacked the practice of the porters-in-charge by the Pullman company, were included in the hearings and were an effective weapon used to put the bill over.

Senator Minton believes that the ado raised over this bill was stirred up by officials who saw in the bill an additional increase in ther payrolls.

STOP LABOR RACKETEERING

The amendments to the Wagner National Labor Relations Act, which were recently approved by the House by a two to one vote, represent a praiseworthy attempt to correct a law which has been a constant source of industrial discord.

The amendments provide for the appointment of a new labor board, separate administrative and judicial functions, permit employers to discuss labor problems with employes, require the board to obtain the approval of members of craft unions before forcing their absorption into industrial unions, and make it legal for employers to refuse to bargain with alien labor leaders.

In no way would these amendments deprive labor of any legitimate right or protection which it now has. The cause of honest unionism would not be imperiled to the slightest degree, and the right of collective bargaining would not be weakened. All the amendments would do, is to eliminate certain abuses which have no place in a free country. They would stop the labor board from acting as judge, jury and prosecutor, all in one —and they would deprive czar-like alien agitators of powers which have been employed time and again to foment unnecessary and unjustified industrial strife and violence.

The laboring man himself will gain most, in the long run, from reform of the Wagner Act—even as the honest laboring man is the worst sufferer when labor racketeering is permitted to run rampant.

LIENS HARD HIT BY LAW TO HALT SABOTAGE

Many Black Foreigners Feeling Pinch Of Fifth Column Precautions

WASHINGTON—(ANP)—Aliens of all nationalities, black or white, will be under close observation as a result of the passage of the Oppressive Labor Practices act of 1939, sponsored by Senator LaFollette and bitterly fought on the floor of the Senate until it included amendments designed to protect American industries and American citizens.

The act outlaws the use of strike-breakers, puts to a stop the use of labor spies requiring armed police to remain on company property, exposes "fifth column activities" and permits employers to possess legitimate defensive property.

However, of import to foreign born living in the United States and its territories, a drastic blow is included in the amendment offered by Senator Reynolds of North Carolina which states that it shall be unlawful for any person engaged in interstate or foreign commerce or in the production of goods for such commerce to have any aliens in his employ to the extent of more than 10 per cent of the total number of his employes.

This is particularly interesting to many Negroes in large cities where, in one instance, a foreign firm manufacturing perfumes would not hire a colored worker unless he was from one of the West Indes islands —whether they were or were not citizens of the United States.

LABOR- 1940

Gen. Hugh S. Johnson Answers a Critic As to "Wages" of Red Caps

SEP 24 1940

WASHINGTON, D. C. — My friend Col. Fleming, able administrator of the wage-and-hour law, has written me calling me on a recent column which discussed the trouncing red cap porters got when the new rule of "ten cents a bag" went into effect.

If you want to have your bags carried when you get off the train you must pay the porters at least ten cents each. The porter accounts for all this to the railroad company. If, at the end of the week, the total does not equal the minimum wage required by the law, the railroad must make up the difference.

As my column explained, the net result has been a serious slash in red caps' earnings. My column put the loss at between 10 per cent and 25 per cent that brought a storm of letters and verbal protests from red caps. They say the loss is "nearer 40 per cent."

Col. Fleming does not dispute all this, but objects to my blaming the wage-and-hour division for this result. He says that the railroads and not his administration "devised" the system. Mebbe so, Philip, but until you began to "administer," there wasn't any such system and now there is.

"The device," writes Col. Fleming, "is purely the work of the railroads and their terminal companies. The wage-and-hour division ruled that tips are not wages and required the red caps employers to pay them the statutory minimum wage, 30 cents an hour. Several suits had been filed by both the division and the red caps' unions. To compel conformation with the fair labor standards act, the railroads inaugurated the 10 per cent plan, and, as you say, make up any discrepancy in income at the end of the week. Our lawyers advise us that by thus insuring the payment of the minimum wage, the railroads are meeting all the requirements of the law, so far as the jurisdiction of the wage-and-hour division is concerned. . . There appears to be nothing we can do about it legally and their union officials understand our position."

Mebbe so, again, but this is as contradictory a paragraph as I have seen. If "tips were not wages" and that wage-and-hour ruling produced all this grief for the porters, how do they suddenly become "wages meeting all the requirements of the law" merely because the railroad company grabs them out of the porters' hands and gives part of them back again? The wage-and-hour division informs me that, in some cases, the railroads grab the entire "take" and refund only 30 cents an hour—a process which distorts a "minimum" wage law into a maximum wage law. As a matter of fact, it is the exception rather than the rule that there is any "discrepancy" to make up. Usually there is a surplus to grab. The whole business is chickenfeed chiseling.

I can't believe that there is "nothing we can do about it legally." One thing to do about it is to carry the ruling that "tips were not wages" through to its logical conclusion that they do not become wages after the railroad has hi-jacked them out of the porter and paid part of them back again. When I tip a porter, I am making a gift or payment to him —not to the railroad company which has no more right to take it away from him than it would have to take any of his other property—his pants, for example.

Maybe their "union officials understand our position" but that should not be enough for the wage-and-hour division. Porters' unions are not very strong. It is a joke, for example, to talk about maximum hours for dining car employees and pullman porters. They do not come under Colonel Fleming's administration but frequently they work sixty hours a week without overtime. What is the answer? The answer is that they are Negroes and so are many of the red caps. Their unions are afraid to call their souls their own.

This administration which claims to have done so much for both labor and the colored race should begin itself in this direction at least from now until election. It is an unfair and even an oppressive exploitation of a helpless class.

Pepsi Cola Jobs For Negro College Students

(Because of the importance of this release to Negro college students, and because of its vastly important to this section displaced it, the Northwest Enterprise reprints it today in full)

New milestone in American business will be marked next week with the introduction of a novel system of business internship for young American men and women —the first specific step of its kind in industry. Walter S. Mack, Jr., president of the Pepsi-Cola Company, is initiating the plan in his organization.

Known as the Walter Mack Job Awards for American Youth, this pioneering measure to develop jobs for young college people seeking to enter the business world, is in essence, the granting of a group of business fellowships in the form of actual salaried jobs.

The plan was launched at a luncheon at LaGuardia Field, New York, on July 8th, with Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt and Hon. Fiorello H. LaGuardia, President of the U. S. Conference of Mayors, among the speakers. A cross-section of some of the most noted people in America in the fields of business, the arts, music, literature, theater, sports and public life will also be present. The plan has the active sponsorship and participation of hundreds of colleges in states throughout the Union.

The young winners of the Job Awards plan who are being chosen by a noted committee from among applicants in colleges throughout the country, will be brought to New York as the guests of the Company, to be present at the luncheon and meet with distinguished and successful persons of the present day, on the start of their own first step into the professional world.

"The plan is in essence the granting of a group of business fellowships in the form of actual salaried jobs," said Mr. Mack. "All winners receive training not only in jobs created for them where possible in the departments of their own choosing, but usually also in that territory in the United States where they will be happiest. Each job Award is for a year at a salary of thirteen hundred dollars. At the end of that time the group will either be taken into the regular organization on a permanent basis by mutual consent, or assisted to make connections with other business organizations, backed by the tremendous advantage of this year's practical experience.

Negro colleges participating in plan of Walter Mack job awards for American youth are:

Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, Tuskegee, Ala.; Miner Teachers' College, Washington D. C.; Morehouse College, Atlanta Ga.; Georgia State College, Industrial College, Ga.; Kentucky State Industrial College, Frankfort, Ky.; Morgan College, Baltimore, Md.; Allen University, Columbia, S. C.; Benedict College, Columbia, S. C.; State Colored Normal, Industrial, Agricultural and Mechanical College of South Carolina, Orangeburg, S. C.; Lane College, Jackson, Tenn.; Knoxville College, Knoxville, Tenn.

Le Moyne College, Memphis, Tenn., Fisk University, Nashville, Tenn.; Jarvis Christian College, Hawkins, Texas; Wiley College, Marshall Texas; Prarie View State College, Prarie View, Texas; Virginia State College for Negroes, Ettrick, Va.; Hampton Institute, Hampton, Va.; Virginia Union University, Richmond, Va.; and Bluefield State Teachers College, Bluefield. W. Va.

LABOR - 1940
OCCUPATION WAGES, ETC.

GENERAL

JOBS FOR NEGROES

In view of the unemployment situation, there comes this week, an astonishing report. It is charged, by Mr. Merriman of the Merriman Employment agency, that he has offered, and has now jobs for Negroes, that have no "takers." Negroes who have signed contracts to fill jobs have not fulfilled their appointments. Others "hem and haw" and display an attitude that discourages the investment of any confidence in them.

Evidently, the persons who have applied for these jobs are not of the element, which exists in large numbers, who desire jobs. Nor are they of that element, who so plentifully tramp the streets, with hardly a clean shirt to grace their backs. It is impossible to believe that the poor woman you saw with the blazing sign of poverty on her face, or that man who was so able-bodied, yet idle, refused a job.

It is this attitude of a few who create the bad impression for the majority, who lessen the opportunities for the worthwhile. Since the jobs do not appear to be of the "slave—for—nothing" variety. It is hoped that more people who earnestly desire jobs will be contacted.

E. G. K.

250,000 YOUTHS TRAINED IN CCC CAMP PROGRAM SINCE '33
$700,000 A MONTH TO PARENTS

OCT 11 1940

Boys Are Taken Off Streets and Given Opportunity to Earn Money for Parents and Dependents

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(Special)—Proof of the fact that the Roosevelt administration has not only served as the salvation of the Negro in the upper social brackets of American life, but also to the unfortunates who are constantly hounded by the wolves of poverty is shown through the records of the Civilian Conservation Corps which had its beginning in 1933 and where 250,000 Negro youths are now serving.

Since the New Deal administration has taken over the controlling helm of the nation, there are less idlers and urchins seen at the street corners, and more avenues for honest employment opened through the training gained in CCC camps.

Many-Fold Objectives

The program of the CCC has afforded them employment, aided their families, many of whom have been on relief, schooled them in new trades and occupations, and contributed to the conservation of the nation's natural resources.

There are 30,000 Negro youths and war veterans, one-tenth of the total CCC enrollment, who are actively participating in the CCC and $700,000-a-month for the past year has been allotted by the boys to their parents and dependents back home.

More than 90,000 books have been supplied through the War Department and the office of education for camp libraries, and 12,000 Negro enrollees in the past five years have completed courses in first aid through co-operation of the CCC and the National Red Cross.

A record of 11,000 have been taught to read and write, and more than ninety per cent regularly attend classes from elementary to college level which are conducted in each camp's educational building, which is well equipped and especially constructed for vocational instruction.

Colleges Give Scholarships

Howard university, Wilberforce university, Tuskegee Institute, Hampton Institute, Florida Agricultural and Mechanics college at Tallahassee, Tennessee Agricultural and Industrial State college, and a number of other Negro colleges have granted scholarships and fellowships to CCC enrollees.

There are 2,000 Negro project assistants, leaders, and assistant leaders on duty in camps; 600 cooks are employed in mess halls; 900 classes in Negro history are conducted daily; 800 boys have gained business training in the capacity of store clerks and managers of the post exchanges; 400 typists are assigned to CCC headquarters of the commanding officers, camp superintendents and educational advisers.

There are 147 Negro college graduates serving in the capacities of educational advisers; 1,200 part-time experienced teachers and engaged in instructing the enrollees; 25 medical reserve officers and chaplains of the United States Reserve Corps are on active duty in camps.

106 Camps

There are 106 Negro CCC camps located in forests, parks, recreational areas, fish and game reservations and on drainage and mosquito-control projects; 43 companies are engaged in soil conservation projects.

Two Negro commanding officers with the rank of captain and lieutenant are on active duty with the CCC and four other line officers also. There are 4 Negro engineers and 6 technical foremen. One historian, with a Ph.D. degree from Columbia university is included in the personnel of the CCC.

The sum of $15,000,000 has been obligated for clothing worn by Negro enrollees, including shirts underwear, trousers, socks, jumpers shoes, caps, raincoats and overcoats. The amount of $19,000,000 has been expended for food served in camps during the past six-and-a-half years, and $1,500,000 has been received by railroads for transportation of the enrollees to camp and back home.

250,000 Negro Youth Trained in Nation's CCC Since 1933

OCT 12 1940

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The program of the C. C. C. has afforded them employment, aided their families, many of them have been on relief, schooled them in new trades and occupations, and contributed to the conservation of the nation's natural resources.

There are 30,000 Negro youths and war veterans, one-tenth of the total C. C. C. enrollment who are actively participating in the C. C. C., and $700,00 a month for the past year has been alloted by the boys to their parents and dependents back home.

More than 90,000 books have been supplied through the War Department and the office of education for camp libraries, and 12,000 Negro enrollees, in the past five years have completed courses in first aid through cooperation of the C. C. C. and thet National Red Cross.

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LABOR - 1940
OCCUPATION WAGES, ETC.

GENERAL

JOBS FOR NEGROES

In view of the unemployment situation, there comes this week, an astonishing report. It is charged, by Mr. Merriman of the Merriman Employment agency, that he has offered, and has now jobs for Negroes, that have no "takers." Negroes who have signed contracts to fill jobs have not fulfilled their appointments. Others "hem and haw" and display an attitude that discourages the investment of any confidence in them.

Evidently, the persons who have applied for these jobs are not of the element, which exists in large numbers, who desire jobs. Nor are they of that element, who so plentifully tramp the streets, with hardly a clean shirt to grace their backs. It is impossible to believe that the poor woman you saw with the blazing sign of poverty on her face, or that man who was so able-bodied, yet idle, refused a job.

It is this attitude of a few who create the bad impression for the majority, who lessen the opportunities for the worthwhile. Since the jobs do not appear to be of the "slave—for—nothing" variety. It is hoped that more people who earnestly desire jobs will be contacted.

E. G. K.

250,000 YOUTHS TRAINED IN CCC CAMP PROGRAM SINCE '33

$700,000 A MONTH TO PARENTS

OCT 11 1940

Boys Are Taken Off Streets and Given Opportunity to Earn Money for Parents and Dependents

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(Special)—Proof of the fact that the Roosevelt administration has not only served as the salvation of the Negro in the upper social brackets of American life, but also to the unfortunates who are constantly hounded by the wolves of poverty, is shown through the records of the Civilian Conservation Corps which had its beginning in 1933 and where 250,000 Negro youths are now serving.

Since the New Deal administration has taken over the controlling helm of the nation, there are less idlers and urchins seen at the street corners, and more avenues for honest employment opened through the training gained in CCC camps.

Many-Fold Objectives

The program of the CCC has afforded them employment, aided their families, many of whom have been on relief, schooled them in new trades and occupations, and contributed to the conservation of the nation's natural resources.

There are 30,000 Negro youths and war veterans, one-tenth of the total CCC enrollment, who are actively participating in the CCC and $700,000-a-month for the past year has been allotted by the boys to their parents and dependents back home.

More than 90,000 books have been supplied through the War Department and the office of education for camp libraries, and 12,000 Negro enrollees in the past five years have completed courses in first aid through co-operation of the CCC and the National Red Cross.

A record of 11,000 have been taught to read and write, and more than ninety per cent regularly attend classes from elementary to college level which are conducted in each camp's educational building, which is well equipped and especially constructed for vocational instruction.

Colleges Give Scholarships

Howard university, Wilberforce university, Tuskegee Institute, Hampton Institute, Florida Agricultural and Mechanics college at Tallahassee, Tennessee Agricultural and Industrial State college, and a number of other Negro colleges have granted scholarships and fellowships to CCC enrollees.

There are 2,000 Negro project assistants, leaders, and assistant leaders on duty in camps; 600 cooks are employed in mess halls; 900 classes in Negro history are conducted daily; 800 boys have gained business training in the capacity of store clerks and managers of the post exchanges; 400 typists are assigned to CCC headquarters of the commanding officers, camp superintendents and educational advisers.

There are 147 Negro college graduates serving in the capacities of educational advisers; 1,200 part-time experienced teachers and engaged in instructing the enrollees; 25 medical reserve officers and chaplains of the United States Reserve Corps are on active duty in camps.

106 Camps

There are 106 Negro CCC camps located in forests, parks, recreational areas, fish and game reservations and on drainage and mosquito-control projects; 43 companies are engaged in soil conservation projects.

Two Negro commanding officers with the rank of captain and lieutenant are on active duty with the CCC and four other line officers also. There are 4 Negro engineers and 6 technical foremen. One historian, with a Ph.D. degree from Columbia university is included in the personnel of the CCC.

The sum of $15,000,000 has been obligated for clothing worn by Negro enrollees, including shirts underwear, trousers, socks, jumpers shoes, caps, raincoats and overcoats. The amount of $19,000,000 has been expended for food served in camps during the past six-and-a-half years, and $1,500,000 has been received by railroads for transportation of the enrollees to camp and back home.

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TECHNICIANS WANTED

OCT 26 1940

ALTHOUGH WE STILL have some eight million unemployed in this country, there is increasing evidence that the list of unemployed does not include trained mechanics and technicians. Last week the New York City Board of Education advertised for 1000 additional instructors in mechanical trades for its emergency training program for national defense. These jobs pay from $7.50 to $10 per day, and Joseph R. VanDenburg, chairman of the committee on certification, announced that requirements for the positions have been lowered considerably for trained men desiring temporary licenses. The requirements of this job is that the applicant must be 27 years of age with nine years experience in their trades and at least one year of high school education.

New York Age

In the same paper that carried this notice was the statement that the federal government had appropriated $6,000,000 for the immediate erection of cantonments for draftees, and that additional sums had been previously allocated or transferred from the WPA for this purpose. Added up these items of news mean that there will be plenty of work for trained mechanics and technicians.

OCT 26 1940

We live in a mechanical age and even war has become mechanized. So that Negroes will have to change their attitude toward skilled labor. For many years we failed to understand the philosophy of the late Dr. Booker T. Washington and tried to direct the ambitions of our youth into professional fields. Dr. Washington held that a good mechanic was just as useful to society as a professional man, and oft-times could command better pay. The depression has taught us that the welfare of the professional class is dependent upon the prosperity of the masses of labor, skilled and unskilled.

New York Age

It is for this reason that we feel the Board of Education should accept the recommendation of the Board of Superintendents for the establishment of a three-year child guidance service program in Harlem. If more of our youngsters could be directed into the skilled trades, they and their race would be much better off. There is a shortage of technicians among our group, especially in New York.

LABOR 1940
OCCUPATION, WAGES, ETC.

GENERAL

U. S. To Help Negro Vets In CCC Camps Get Jobs

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(ANP) Nearly 3,000 Negro veterans now in some 10 or more CCC camps scattered throughout the country will be affected by the announcement that nation, state and local veterans 'educational and employment agencies are joining forces in a nation-wide guidance, training and placement program that is expected to provide pobs for the majority of them.

J. W. Studebaker, U. S. Commissioner of Education and adviser to the war department on CCC education problems, has outlined the program which has the full support of camp educational advisers and directors, war department officials, representatives of the American Legion and other veterans' organizations, U. S. Employment service and Veterans' Placement services offices.

"With the active cooperation of more than one million members of the American Legion and those affiliated with other veterans' organizations throughout the United States, this movement should be most effective in helping veterans to get another start in the right direction," Commissioner Studebaker said.

In the camps for veterans, the same program is followed that prevails in other CCC camps. There is the educational adviser and the entire building devoted to educational purposes; a recreational program for the betterment of the veterans' health and leisure time activities and a general work program calculated to get the best results from those men taken from relief rolls and such.

Following is the listing of camps in which Negro veterans are maintained in the program of the CCC.

All-Negro camps are located at Huntsville and Schulenberg, Texas; Reidsville, Penna.; Norwich and Machias, N. Y.; Peebles, O.; Gilman, Ill.; Weston, Md.; Mead, Kan.; Concord, N. C.; Linden, Ala.; Ville Platte, La.; Ardmore, Okla.; and Pittsburgh Landing, Tenn.; Yorktown, Va., and Corinth, Miss. The camp at Yorktown, Va., is one in which the CCC takes special pride because it has done much of the work in assisting in the restoration of historic Virginia for coming generations.

Interesting are the two camps—one at Shraps Hill, W. Va., which boasts of 154 white veterans and seven colored, and the camp at Morganfield, y., having 150 white and 30 colored veterans.

Other mixed camps where the number of Negroes runs from one to 11 are maintained at Somis, Calif.; Three Rivers, Colo.; Willows, LaMesa, Praholo and Danville, Calif.; Sultan, Wash.; Torrington, Conn.; Pittsfield, East Brewster, North Reading, Westfield, Mass.; Hope Valle, R. I.; Putman, Conn.; Garrison, Minn.; Denison, Ia.; Columbus and Scottsbluff, Neb.; Phoenix, Ariz., and Mt. Morrison, Colo.

Officials of the CCC remark that the success of these mixed camps has been remarkable for the almost entire absence of any racial friction and have proven a successful experiment.

Wages And Hours Law Put On Weekly Basis

WASHINGTON — (AP)—The wage-hour division announced today that for enforcement purposes it was adopting a weekly, rather than an hourly, basis of determining whether an employer has complied with the wage-hour law.

"Thus," said the announcement, "if a piece-worker earns $12 at his piece rate for 42 hours' work in one week and $14 at his piece rate for 42 hours' work the following week the employer has not met the requirements of the act during the first week even though the employe earns more than the equivalent of 30 cents an hour for the total hours worked in the two-week period.

"The employer will be required to pay the employe 60 cents extra to make up the minimum wage (of 30 cents an hour) for the first week. This will be true even though the employer pays biweekly or at any longer interval. There is no objection, of course, to a biweekly, semi-monthly or monthly pay period. . ."

The announcement noted that the weekly system of determining compliance is not binding on the courts.

"The courts may hold, for example," it said, "that it is unlawful to set a time (hourly) rate of less than 30 cents an hour for any hours during the work week even though higher earnings during other hours in the week might bring the total weekly earnings to $12.60 for 42 hours."

Justice for the Barbers

It was a pleasure to publish in the Letter Column of The Sunday Telegraph and News a communication from W. W. Hawkins who discussed editorials in these columns in regard to the ordinance recently passed by the Macon city council looking to the control of the barber business in this city.

Our correspondent must have read these editorials rather hastily if he understood us to say, as a matter of fact, that a barber could shave 50 people in a day, at 15 cents each and therefore earned $7.50.

It must have been clear to the general reader that the figures were quite hypothetical and intended only as an illustration of the point under consideration. We had no knowledge then, and have none now, as to how many customers a barber can shave in a day, nor does it make the slightest difference, so far as the issue in question is concerned.

We undertook to show how the law of diminishing returns operates. That is to say, one of the fundamentals of business experience is that rates may be advanced, but so long as there is nothing compulsory about a man riding on a railroad or having his face shaved, it does not follow that the higher rate will bring a larger revenue per day or per week.

In other words, assuming—simply as an hypothesis — that a barber does shave 50 men a day at 15 cents each, and then raises the price of a shave to 25 cents he is certain to meet "consumer resistance"—he will lose a certain number of customers, who will shave themselves, and if the number of patrons drops below 30 his revenue per day will be less than it was when he shaved 50 people at 15 cents each.

While the figures were theoretical, there is not the slightest doubt about the practical experience. A law somewhat similar to the ordinance passed in Macon was made a state law in Louisiana. A barber in one of the suburbs of New Orleans (as well as all other barbers) was compelled to raise the price he charged for a shave and a haircut.

He did his best to travel along under the law, but he soon found that he was earning less at the higher rate than he did at the lower rate. Whereas formerly he had been able to earn a decent living and support his family, he soon found that he was headed for bankruptcy.

And then when he attempted to reduce his rates to the former level he was arrested. The last we heard of him he was still in bankruptcy.

In a work entitled "Labor's Road to Plenty" by Allan W. Rucker, we read on Page 107.

> The attempt to collect artificially high hourly wage-rates through disparity of prices is invariably punished by a decline in the physical volume of sales and the man-hours of employment required to produce it.

In that immediate connection the author was discussing transportation, and he makes the statement that disparity freight rates, "compelled in part by arbitrary hourly wage-rates, have progressively caused unemployment."

Between 1923 and 1933 the hourly wage rate rose from 60 to 95 cents, but the number of hours worked per man fell from an index of 100 to 45.3.

This was the result of the federal railway act of 1921 and proved as futile as all artificial efforts to raise the hourly rate will always prove.

The general public is under a certain necessity to patronize the railroads. If he wants to ship a carload of coal a hundred miles he can't spite the railroads by carrying the coal on his back.

But an effort to compel the use of personal service is more surely doomed to failure and to injustice all along the line than an effort to control the wage rate in transportation. We repeat that there will always be a certain number of customers who will shave themselves rather than pay an increased price for the service.

This newspaper is opposed to the whole theory of "price-fixing" by law, largely because it does not work out to the advantage of those it is intended to help, but even more emphatically because it interferes with the right of private contract and the freedom of every man to earn his living as he sees fit.

Our correspondent writes as if he voiced the sentiments of all the barbers in Macon, and yet it is a matter of common knowledge that a large number of Macon barbers are strongly opposed to this attempt to tell them how they shall run their business and are preparing to test the validity of the new ordinance before the supreme court of Georgia.

The Telegraph is seeking to come to the aid of the "underdog" in this fight because wisdom and experience show that he is the man who will be hurt by the very machinery which pretends to lift his standard of living

WPA Official Points Out Benefits of Agency to Negroes During 1939

"Judging from the widespread benefits derived by Negroes as well as other people, the money spent on the employment program of the Work Projects Administration was the nation's best investment during 1939," Alfred Edgar Smith, staff adviser at Federal WPA headquarters here, said during an interview this week.

"The most important benefit, of course, was the employment given to needy workers," Mr. Smith said. "During the past year an average of 300,000 Negro workers were employed on WPA projects and it is estimated that they received some $15,000,000 in monthly wages. More than a million Negroes, including dependent members of these workers' families, owed their individual livelihood directly to the WPA.

Low Cost Housing

"Besides receiving WPA wages, workers in some localities were able to obtain decent housing at low cost in Government-built houses; and in many more localities their wages were supplemented by the distribution of surplus clothing and food.

Certain features of the WPA program stood out above others. Many Negro women who were wage earners for their families found in WPA employment their first opportunity to work as something other than domestic and personal servants or as laborers in the cotton fields. WPA adult education classes furnished many grown Negroes with their first opportunity to attend any kind of school.

"Juvenile delinquency decreased among colored children as WPA workers carried supervised and instructive recreation into underprivileged areas. Illiteracy decreased so much, as a result of WPA classes in reading and writing, that it was considered no longer necessary to include a question on this subject in the 1940 Census.

14 Per Cent of Total

"After reviewing the need of its workers in February 1939," Mr. Smith said, "the WPA certified 387,138 Negroes for continued employment. These men and women comprised 14 per cent of the total number of WPA workers. Despite some concentration in big cities of the North, the largest representation of Negro workers was, as might be expected, in the Southeastern States.

"Negroes comprised 39 per cent of all WPA workers in both South Carolina and Louisiana and 37 per cent in Georgia. Surprisingly the proportion of Negro WPA workers in the District of Columbia was 67 per cent. In Illinois it was 20 per cent and in New York and Kansas, 14 per cent; but in New England, most of the Great Plains States, and the Northwest the averages were under 5 per cent.

"These Negro workers did work of all kinds. In the WPA's art project, they found a rare opportunity to show their talents as artists, sculptors, writers, actors and scenery designers. As musicians they composed music and played in orchestras. They sang in choral groups over the radio, at the World's Fair, and before the King and Queen of England.

Professionals Helped Agencies

"They taught classes of all sorts and they played an important part as leaders in organized recreation. As doctors, dentists, pharmacists and nurses, they helped local health agencies to extend their services among the underprivileged and to spread health education. White-collar workers were employed as clerks, stenographers, typists, statisticians, operators of calculating machines, draftsmen and map makers.

"Among Negro skilled workers were mechanics, electricians, pipe fitters and layers, steel and sheet metal workers, blacksmiths, tractor and truck operators, air-hammer and compressor operators, carpenters, painters, masons, bricklayers, plasterers, cement workers, saw filers, gardeners, tree surgeons and firemen.

"Negro workers found many opportunities for vocational training on WPA projects, as well as at adult education classes in such subjects as radio, woodwork, metal work, and music. Young white-collar workers learned to make maps and to operate many kinds of computing machines. Negro women learned to sew, to make household necessities from scrap materials, and were trained as domestic workers on household training projects.

100 in Headquarters

"The administrative staffs of the Federal, State and District WPA offices employed Negro personnel. Nearly 100 Negroes were employed in various capacities at WPA headquarters in Washington, D. C.; and State administrations made use of Negro workers as race relations officers and in other specialized roles. District offices have employed Negro social workers, labor co-ordinators, educational and recreational supervisors, etc.

"Negroes as well as other people benefited by the public facilities built or improved by WPA workers," Mr. Smith pointed out. "New public libraries were erected, and old ones reconditioned. State colleges for colored students in the South enlarged their plants and acquired new buildings, athletic fields, stadiums, and power plants.

"Negro workers helped improve streets, walks and sewers. Public school buildings, gymnasiums, and auditoriums were constructed and renovated, and rural "cabin" schools were replaced with modern buildings. Outstanding examples of WPA-built buildings for Negro use are: the $100,000 high school at Pine Bluff, Arkansas; the $12,000 civic center at Goldsboro, N. C., and the memorial hospital at Tampa, Fla.

Adult Education Classes

"WPA-provided services also were available to Negro and other citizens alike. There were educational classes for adults as well as nursery schools for small children; and there were community art centers, where instruction was given in painting, sewing, and weaving. There were health clinics, where free dental and medical care could be had, and free venereal clinics that specalized in health education.

"Visiting nurses and house keeping helpers were available for those who needed them. Many Negroes in swampy regions found freedom from malaria for the first time as a result of WPA swamp-drainage projects. Free hot lunches were served to needy school children. There were books written by Negroes on writers' projects, and there was entertainment provided by instrucmental and choral groups from music projects.

"The findings of WPA research workers were made available to the public, covering such subjects as rural and urban workers, migration, youth problems, private employment and industrial changes.

Working Mothers Aided

"Members of the Negro race benefited particularly from services not previously available to them in many communities. Negro mothers were able to seek and hold employment, while small children were kept safe in child-care centers. PA traveling libraries brought a book-lending service to communities where Negroes were barred from public libraries or where library buildings were inaccessible.

"Art became something tangible and real at new WPA art galleries in such centers as Jacksonvile, Memphis, Raleigh, Oklahoma City, and New York. Negroes saw stage productions free, or at a price they could afford, through the Federal Theatre. Directories of Negro churches and catalogues of Negro collections in libraries were made available.

Workers were Protected

"The rights of Negro WPA workers were fully protected in 1939," Mr. Smith said. "Negro workers who complained of discrimination practiced against them on WPA projects had their complaints investigated promptly and necessary adjustments made. In many instances the complaining workers were sustained and received assignments, reclassifications, or reinstatements in their WPA jobs.

"A large percentage of the complaints, however, were based on misconceptions of WPA regulations and were adjusted after proper explanation. In this connection, it should be borne in mind that Congress has specifically forbidden any discrimination because of race in WPA employment.

"Negro workers furloughed from WPA rolls because of eighteen months' continuous employment, as well as those forced off the rolls because of quota reductions, made every effort to secure employment in private industry during 1939," Mr. Smith concluded.

"Investigation has shown that they experienced great difficulty in finding steady work at an adequate wage, but when they were so fortunate as to find it they proved excellent workers. The training and work experience gained on WPA projects stood them in good stead.

"Negro workers, both on and off the WPA rolls, look forward hopefully to a continuation of business recovery in 1940. Meanwhile, those for whom private industry has as yet no place are compiling an enviable record on WPA projects and are taking advantage of every training opportunity."

Nine To 12 Millions Unemployed In U. S., Roosevelt Informed

Higher January Estimates Blamed On Both Decline And Seasonal Factors

WASHINGTON— (AP) —President Roosevelt's economic advisers, it was learned today, have sent him a memorandum indicating that the nation started 1940 with from nine billion to 12 billion unemployed.

The memorandum is a compilation of differing estimates from prominent labor statistics sources. It draws no original conclusions.

The president was told that the best unemployment figures available until the census takers check up in April are as follows:

	Estimated 1939 Av'ge	Est'd For Jan., 1940
National Industrial Conference Board	9,100,000	9,300,000
A. F. L.	10,100,000	10,200,000
C. I. O.	10,700,000	12,000,000
A federal economist	9,800,000	10,500,000

The economist, one whose figures are used regularly by a half dozen federal agencies, said that the higher figures for January were due partly to the business decline in that month but largely to seasonal factors which always increase unemployment in that month.

This statistician figures that an average of 2,000,000 was unemployed in 1929, with the figure rocketing to 14,000,000 in March, 1933, declining to 6,250,000 in September, 1937, rising again to 10,300,000 in February 1938, and touching temporary bottom again at 8,800,000 last October.

If the usual seasonal factors operate this year—a circumstance of which he is not sure because of the recent business decline—this economist calculates that unemployment should be down to about 9,000,000 in April.

The Bureau of Agricultural Economics, meanwhile, forecasts a Spring reversal of the downturn in business activity but did not find any signs indicating a rapid improvement thereafter.

Employment and business conditions are being given special study in administration and congressional circles at this time because Congress soon will have to appropriate relief funds for the next fiscal year.

Senator Murray (D., Mont.) wants President Roosevelt to recommend more than the approximate one billion dollars which was recommended for the WPA in the budget estimates. His proposal was winning support from several colleagues.

The budget figure is about a half billion dollars less than this year's total and would require a 600,000 reduction in WPA's average enrollment.

Civil Service And Its Meaning

By ATTORNEY WENDELL E. GREEN

In a time like this, when we are beginning to hear the tramping feet of our soldiers, governmental functions of our army and navy become matters of keen public interest and those governmental functions are particularly dramatized in the thinking of the young men and women of Chicago.

When we think of other governmental functions not of a military character, we then have a definition and a true application of the term Civil Service in government.

The civil service law, which is properly termed the merit law, is the competitive process by which positions in the civil functions of government are filled from an eligible list of competent people.

The years of effort in bringing about a change in the method of appointment of persons to civil positions, together with subsequent administrative development of the merit law, dramatize one of the most profound evolutions in our democratic process.

Prior to the passage of the merit law by our legislature, appointments to public office were subjected to wholesale changes on the coming to power of each succeeding administration.

However, as the result of an increased amount of intelligent participation in the affairs of government by the lay public, and a closer cooperation between the lay public and administrative officials, it soon became apparent that administrative efficiency was promoted by the appointment of competent persons to fill governmental jobs, and that continuity of employment in those jobs was an attractive magnet, which drew to governmental service qualified men and women, who wished for a career in public service.

Operating in Illinois we have the United States Civil Service law; the State Civil Service law; the County Civil Service law; the Chicago Park District Civil Service law; the Sanitary District Civil Service law; the Schools Civil Service Laws, and the Chicago Civil Service laws.

The Chicago Civil Service law was enacted in 1895, and the first Chicago Civil Service Commission, consisting of three members, all of whom cannot be members of the same political party, was appointed in July, 1895, by the then Mayor George B. Swift.

Under the law, all governmental positions were not under Civil Service.

Officers exempted from the Classified service are: Officers elected by the people, those officers whose appointments are subject to confirmation by the City Council, judges and clerks of election, members of the Board of Education, the superintendent and teachers of the public schools, the heads of principal departments of the city, members of the law department, the private secretary of the mayor, and members of the police department above the grade of captains of police.

The various positions in the classified service are created by the City Council, which body also fixes the salaries of the positions created.

When the positions are created, it then becomes the duty of the Civil Service Commission to classify those positions into various branches of the service and to classify them into grades based upon the salary rate for the respective positions.

In the Chicago Classified service we have more than 30,000 employees. The salary range is $75 per month for a messenger boy to $975 per month for Librarian of the Chicago Public Library.

It will be interesting to note the growth of our Chicago classified service.

In 1895 there were 42 different kinds of jobs, but today we have 1202 different kinds of jobs in the classified service.

In 1895, 437 men took the examination for 50 places on the police force, but in 1936 over 30,000 men made application for 300 places in the Chicago Police Department. Out of the 30,000 applicants only 3200 were successfu in the final examination.

To publish the eligible list fo the police examination, it is necessary for the Commission to enter approximately 500,000 item on the records of the Civil Service Commission.

In 1937 approximately 1163 women took the examination for about 35 places in the Police Department for police women, and only 10 women passed the examination.

Likewise in 1939 the Commission gave an examination for approximately 50 places as school clerk, and more than 6000 took the examination.

Last year the Commission gave an examination for approximately 58 places as truant officer, and over 5000 took the examination.

A few weeks ago the Commission issued a call for 8 examinations, among which was an examination for junior clerk with a salary range from $125 to $171 per month. For approximately 100 places, we have on file more than 10,000 requests at this time to take the examination to be held July 12, 1940.

It is readily seen that since unemployment is the problem of the hour, thousands upon thousands of men and women ask, "How can I secure a civil service position with its assurance of permanency in office and security in old age, through the many worthy pension systems now in force?"

The examinations are free to all citizens of the United States who have been residents of Chicago for 1 year with specified limitations as to residence, age, health, habits, and moral character.

The applicant to be successful, should immediately upon filing his application ascertain the duties of the position he seeks. With that knowledge, he can readily determine his own capabilities, and is then able to outline an intelligent method of study, in preparation for the examination in question.

Another question which is many times asked, is this: "Do personality, influence, political party religion play a part in the competitive civil service examination?"

The answer is "No", and any applicant relying upon any person, source or agency other than his own merit is doomed to failure.

The examination papers are graded by numbers, and the identity of the applicants is not known to the examiners.

When the grading of the examination papers is completed, the names of the successful applicants are placed on an eligible list in the order of their relative excellency.

And from that list of applicants in an original examination, the applicants are appointed in the order of their standing on the eligible list.

Once, one has been appointed and has served the six month probation period, he cannot be removed from the service, except for good cause shown, at a Civil Service trial.

It is well for those desiring to enter the classified service to remember that it is not enough to make a passing mark of 70. To be assured of appointment, every applicant should prepare thoroughly, with the hope of excelling all other applicants. Even though thousands take the examination, if there are but 10 jobs, you must be within the first ten persons in excellency to secure a position.

It is well to remember that Civiy Service examinations, because of the increased requirements in all civil service positions, are each year becoming more difficult.

An ever increasing number of college trained men and women are seeking careers in public service.

Once in the service there are many opportunities for advancement by promotion to higher salary brackets.

A career in public service is a laudable ambition for the boys and girls of today.

Tipless Red Caps

Under the customary tipping system it is virtually impossible to apply the provisions of the Wage-Hour Act to red caps at railway terminals. Hence the roads have been gradually putting a new system of payment into effect in an endeavor to meet the requirements of the law in a more satisfactory manner. Washington has been operating under this system for some time and last week it was extended to cover New York City terminals.

Instead of tips, fees of 10 cents per bag are charged. Collections are turned over to the railroads and the red caps are paid a fixed wage. To guard against withholding of these fees passengers are given receipts for each bag carried.

It is very difficult to obtain reliable data on the amount of tips received by red caps. Hence it is impossible to determine whether the wages paid them under the new system are likely to approximate their earnings under the old tipping system. But there is little doubt that the new method of payment is a great improvement. For the worker who is forced to depend upon uncertain gratuities cannot plan his expenditures intelligently and often undergoes great hardships due to a run of bad luck.

From the viewpoint of the traveling public the fee system also offers distinct advantages. Charges are adjusted with some regard for the amount of service performed. The generous traveler does not have to help pay for the inadequately remunerated service exacted by inconsiderate persons.

There is still a fly in the ointment, for the red caps expect tips in addition to fees. There is also danger that complete abolition of tips may result in poor service. For despite its defects, the tipping system offers a special incentive to effort under conditions that make it difficult for employers to supervise their employes. If the advantages of a tipless system are to be obtained without the offsetting disadvantages of slower, less willing service, it will doubtless be necessary to maintain closer supervision over red caps in the future.

N.A.A.C.P. IN PLEA FOR JOBS FOR NEGROES

Walter White Cites Two Reasons for Making Request

EDITOR'S NOTE: Because it is likely that airplane manufacturing plants will be located in the Middle West, Negroes in this section are awaiting with particular interest President Roosevelt's reply to the N.A.A.C.P. request for legislation to prevent Negroes from being barred from jobs in such plants.

Missourians already are protesting the attitude of the Missouri Aviation Institute, located at the Kansas City Municipal Airport which advertises for "white American citizens" to take training, intimating that black American citizens will not be accepted as students.

NEW YORK. —President Roosevelt was asked this week by the N. A. A. C. P. to issue an executive order or request Congress to enact legislation prohibiting job discrimination against Negroes in plants manufacturing airplanes and other armaments, before action is taken on his billion-dollar defense recommendation.

The request was contained in a letter sent to the President and signed by Walter White, N. A. A. C. P. executive secretary. Two reasons were advanced for making the request, the letter said:

"The first of these is based upon the fact that Negro American will have to bear at the same rate as others the direct and indirect taxes which will be necessary to provide funds for this increased program. As you know, there has been and is now considerable discrimination against skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled Negro labor in many of these plants. Such discrimination should be abolished completely at a time of national peril like this.

"The second reason is in line with the current concern of the American people over spies, saboteurs and agents of unfriendly nations who seek employment in these plans. That is why we suggest that for the good of America as a whole loyal Negro Americans should not only be free from discrimination but should be welcomed as workers in the plants which will execute the program you recommended to the congress yesterday."

PRESIDENT IS ASKED TO GIVE JOBS TO RACE

N.A.A.C.P. Wants Skilled Men Employed In Arms Plants

NEW YORK — President Roosevelt was asked Friday, May 17, by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People to issue an executive order or request congress to enact legislation prohibiting job discrimination against Negroes in plants manufacturing airplanes and other armaments, before action is taken on his billion-dollar defense recommendation.

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60,000 RAILROAD EMPLOYES TO BENEFIT IF COMMITTEE AGREES TO MEET TERMS

WASHINGTON.—(ANP)—A recommendation for increased compensation to affect favorably 60,000 railroad employes, if terms are not met by companies, was presented to the Administrator of the Wages and Hours division of the Fair Labor Standards Act recently when a joint committee, representing railroads, labor organizations and the general public, met here in the Department of Labor.

This move, significant to Negro workers because occupations allotted them, the lowest paid jobs in the railroal carrier industry, will be most affected if agreements are reached, asks a minimum pay rate of 36 cents an hour for employes of Class I railroads and a basic minimum of 33 cents per hour for workers on Shortline railroads.

Not only because Negroes work in the lowest paid capacities in the industry is this new recommendation the most important since the Fair Labor Standards Act became a law, October, 1938, but also because Negro workers are found in largest numbers on the railroads of the Southeast and Southwest, roads which have followed the pattern of other Southern industries in that they lag behind the nothern division of the industry. If this recommendation is endorsed by the Fair Labor Standards' Administrator pay rates will be unified.

Dr. Charles S. Johnson, director of the department of social sciences at Fisk university, served with the four public members of the joint committee, the only Negro member. Others were: Dr. Frank P. Graham, president of the University of North Carolina; Dr. George E. Osborne, Stanford Law school of California; and Dr. William H. Spencer, head of the department of Business Administration, University of Chicago.

Committee suggestions for minimum pay increases would result in a total annual copensation of $6-903,609, over $2,750,000 of which would be paid to workers on roads of the southern district, Dr. Johnson said.

GEN. HUGH JOHNSON PLEADS FOR RED CAPS

NEW YORK, Sept. 26.—Gen. Hugh S. Johnson, commentator, bitterly flayed the Wage-Hours Administration and the railroads Saturday for turning "tips into wages" by introducing the 10-cent a bag rule for red caps in the nation's terminals.

Discussing the issue in his syndicated column, the general demanded that the railroads be forced to pay the red caps a salary exclusive of tips and that the 10-cents-a-bag practice be discontinued.

"When I tip a porter," he wrote, "I am making a gift or payment to him—not to the railroad."

Including Pullman porters in the discussion, the commentator declared that they are frequently forced to work 60 hours a week without overtime.

"The answer is," he wrote, "that they are Negroes and so are many of the Red Caps. This (national) administration, which claims to have done so much for both labor and the colored race, should bestir itself in this direction at least from now until election. It is an unfair and even an oppressive exploitation of a helpless class."

Porters Gain Jobs On Two I. C. RR Lines

MEMPHIS, Tenn.—(SNS)—The new trainmen will serve on the route from Meridian, Mississippi, to Shreveport, Louisiana.

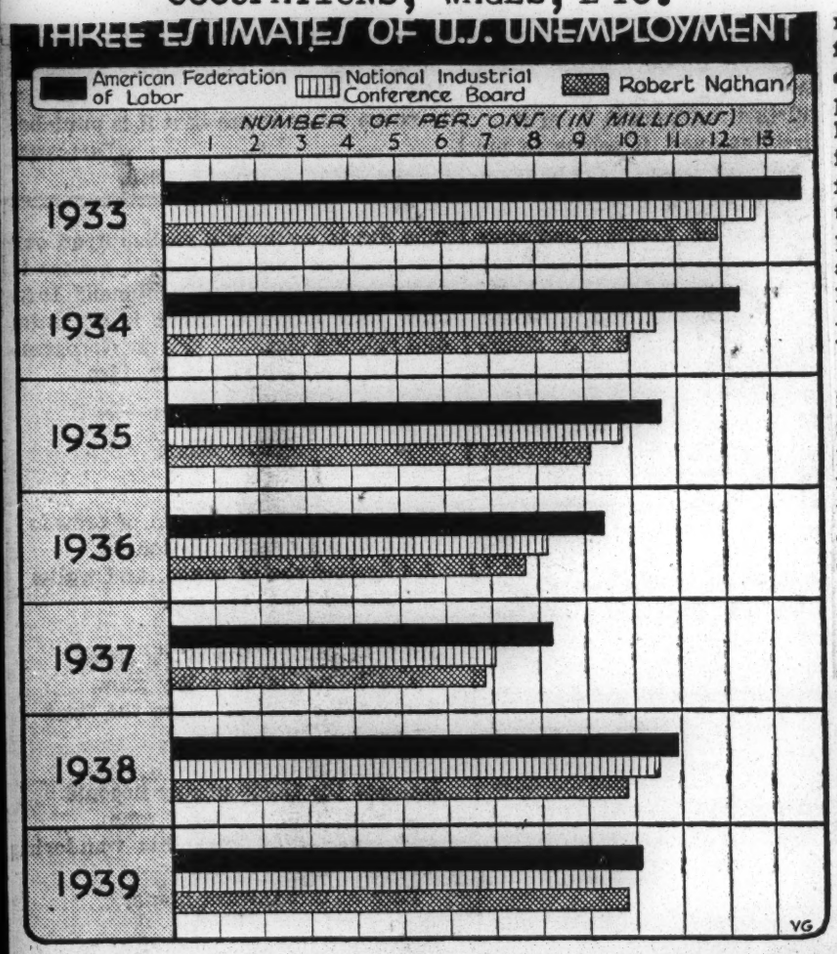
Their appointment was greeted with great enthusiasm among colored railroad men throughout the country. As one commentator put it, "It is wonderful to note that four of the new porters belong to the Porters' Union, and the remaining one has promised to join after his first pay day."

The union was organized June 10, 1938, under the auspices of the American Federation of Labor. It was later transferred to the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters International, whose headquarters are in New York City. The leader of the Brotherhood is Mr. A. Phillip Randolph, one of the best-known of American Labor leaders, white or colored.

The Brotherhood numbers today 9,000 Pullman porters, 7,000 Dining car waiters and cooks, and several hundred train porters. Contracts on working conditions have already been secured for some of the train porters and others are expected soon. Mr. W. C. Raiford is reporting the news for the porters.

LABOR- 1940
OCCUPATIONS, WAGES, ETC.

GENERAL



The government, except during the decennial census, makes no official counts of unemployment. The best-known estimates are those of the A. F. of L., the National Industrial Conference Board, and Robert Nathan, economist of the Department of Commerce. Mr. Nathan's figures are used by government bureaus but bear no official stamp.

ESTIMATES OF JOBLESS ARRIVED AT VARIOUSLY

New Census May Narrow Gaps Which Are Explained by Differences of Definitions and Calculations

By LOUIS STARK

WASHINGTON, March 23—After the returns from next month's 1940 census are tabulated there may be some new light on a dispute now raging in Washington: How many are unemployed in the United States? For while the data to be obtained on unemployment will by no means be complete, they will serve, as the 1930 census has done up to now, as the groundwork on which the best estimates can be made.

The argument now is whether government economists and statisticians and most others, including representatives of organized labor, have correctly placed present unemployment at between 9,000,000 and 11,000,000. Some private estimators, using various government figures as their base, have recently concluded that the maximum of employable unemployed at the end of last December was 4,000,000 (counting those on WPA), that the true figure was possibly 3,000,000, and that if 2,000,000 private jobs were provided unemployment would be about even with that at the end of 1929.

Definitions Elusive

Such a wide disparity in estimates is possible because of the complexity of the task of judging unemployment. There has been no agreement on what constitutes the nation's labor force or, by reverse definition, what constitutes the unemployed.

Some men and women are always part of the labor force, but others are not. At one time of the year a boy or girl at the age of 15 or 16 may be part of the labor force, used, let us say, to move crops. For the rest of the year should this boy or girl be classed as unemployed?

How classify unpaid agricultural workers who take jobs in cities when they are available and then drift back to their farm homes during layoff periods?

Are students of working age to be classed as unemployed while studying? Or if they are compelled to earn their way through college are they to be counted as unemployed at times when they have no supplementary work?

Some persons are "forced entrants" into the labor market, taking jobs only when other members of their family are unemployed. Is a housewife who would take a job because her husband is idle unemployed? Her children may be in school when their father is at work, but if he loses his job they may have to quit school and look around for work. Are they then among the unemployed? Those who hold that not more than 4,000,000 are unemployed today insist that in such case only the husband and father is to be listed as unemployed.

1930 Classification

Questions like these indicate the extent of disagreement among estimators. All calculators go back to the decennial census as the basis, but other indices they then apply vary widely.

The 1930 census classified the unemployed as follows:

Class A—Persons out of a job, able to work and looking for a job.

Class B — Persons having jobs but on lay-off without pay, excluding those sick or voluntarily idle.

Class C — Persons out of a job and unable to work.

Class D — Persons having jobs but idle on account of sickness or disability.

Class E—Persons out of a job and not looking for work.

Class F — Persons having jobs but voluntarily idle without pay.

Class G — Persons having jobs and drawing pay, though not at work (on vacation, etc.).

Unemployment estimates are usually made as follows:

A base period is selected at which the number of persons employed, the number unemployed and the number of gainful workers are known. Most estimates use the last decennial census, 1930, for these data. The 1930 census of occupations classified the gainful workers into twenty-four major industrial groups.

With the known figures as a base the next step is to ascertain the number of employed. This is estimated for any particular period by applying monthly indices of employment in the various groups to the 1930 base.

For example, an industry with 1,000,000 employed and 100,000 unemployed in April, 1930, has an employment index of 100. If the employment index in April, 1932, is 70, the number of employed is 700,000 and the number of unemployed 400,000 (300,000 plus the 100,000 of 1930).

Estimators have before them monthly employment indices covering about two-thirds of all gainful workers. The method of making indices for the remainder varies with the estimators.

After the number of employes is ascertained the estimator finds out the total labor supply available at that time. This is usually done by adding to the number of gainful workers an increment representing the number reaching working age and entering the labor market, less the number leaving the labor market because of death or retirement. By subtracting the number of employed workers from the estimated number available for employment the volume of unemployment for a given date is determined.

The Various Estimates

Although the agencies which make unemployment estimates use the 1930 census unemployment count of 3,187,647 as a foundation figure, they do not accept it without qualification. Variations arise in the classes recognized as unemployed, in the methods of computing monthly employment figures, of estimating monthly additions to the labor supply and of computing agricultural employment. Virtually all estimators, however, make use of the indices of such government agencies as the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the Interstate Commerce Commission and the Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

In computing its annual average figures, the American Federation of Labor began by revising the census count of jobless upward 600,000 to include additional persons whom it classed as unemployed. Furthermore, the A. F. of L. counts only one-half the number of persons in Class E as unemployed and omits Classes C and G. In handling figures on emergency workers, it considers as unemployed for any given year those enrolled in the CCC, the CWA, FERA, WPA, NYA and PWA. The federation estimate of unemployment for 1939 was 10,100,000.

The National Industrial Conference Board, however, maintains that only those in Classes A and B are unemployed and, among the emergency workers, only those on CCC, WPA and NYA rolls. Its estimate for 1939 was 9,429,000.

Nathan's Figures

Robert Nathan, Department of Commerce economist, who makes personal and unofficial computations which circulate among government agencies, revised the 1930 census figure upward by 1,000,000. He included, with the other classes listed, those in D and F who were idle more than two weeks and, also, those enrolled in the CCC, CWA, FERA, WPA and NYA, but not PWA. His total for last year came to 9,835,000.

Private economists who criticize these figures reach their own 4,000,000 total of maximum actual unemployment by yet other routes.

The 1940 census is expected to provide an indication, if not positive proof, of which of these various estimates is most nearly right.

Jobs for Negro Youth

By JAMES T. TAYLOR

Dean, North Carolina College

Problem of Employment Cannot Be Solved By One Group or Race

THE matter of preparing for, and finding a job, is one of the most serious problems that youth has to face. It has always been a serious problem for our youth, but due to certain technological advances and changing economic conditions, youth during the past decade has found it increasingly difficult to find work when school days are over.

In addition to the general difficulties which all youths find in finding jobs, Negro youths are further handicapped by the unwillingness of American employers to give Negroes work opportunities, save in types of work which pay the lowest wages and require the longest hours.

DEAN TAYLOR

In the few instances where Negroes are employed to do the same work as others, he is usually paid a lower wage and is denied equal opportunity for advancement. This is true not only of private employers, but also of the City, State and Federal governments as well.

In general, Negro workers in North Carolina are confined to agriculture, domestic and personal service, and unskilled occupations. These occupations offer little opportunity for high wages or advancement. Then too, in the time of depression, the unskilled worker is the first to be fired. I do not cite these conditions to discourage you, but, rather to encourage you to take stock of the situation and see what can be done about it. I make the following suggestions for your consideration:

1. **Study yourself and fields of employment. Do not let the fact that no Negroes are at present employed in a particular line influence you against it.**

2. **Prepare yourself for some particular job. Be better than anyone else. Find something interesting in your work and capitalize upon it.**

3. **Be courteous. This does not mean servility. Courtesy means consideration for the comfort and general welfare of others.**

4. Seek to discover unique services that need to be performed. Prepare yourself to perform them.

5. Register and vote. Government provides many jobs. One of four employed people is working for government.

One thing thou lackest, the vote, and so long as you lack it, you will be a lackey.

6. Make friends with other youths who have similar interests, and needs as yourself. The problem of employment cannot be solved by one group or race. There must be cooperation between the races.

Youth of the other race must be led to appreciate the handicaps and difficulties under which Negro youth live; they must come to understand that in the South of tomorrow we will be sinews in their arms, helping them lift the South upward and onward or chains about their feet, dragging them and the South to lower depths of poverty and despair.

YOUNG MEN URGED TO JOIN CCC CAMPS

The Cook County Selecting Office of the Civilian Conservation Corps of the Illinois Emergency Relief Commission has issued a call for young men who desire to attend CCC camps. In a letter addressed to A. L. Foster, executive secretary of the Chicago Urban League, under date of March 6, Harold Nudelman, Chicago Selecting Agent for CCC says, "Employment in CCC will again be available for young men in April, 1940. Since your organization reached many young men in the community, we request your cooperation in calling attention to the opportunities and advantages offered by the CCC to unemployed youths. Applications are now being accepted at the office for the enrollment which begins on April 1, 1940." The address of the Chicago office is 1257 North Paulina street.

The CCC offers to young men who are eligible, healthful outdoor employment, work experience, vocational training, education and recreational facilities. The young men are given complete maintenance in camp including food, housing, clothing, medical and dental care, and are allowed $8 per month for their own personal use in camp. In addition, $22 per month is sent to the family of the boys or, if there is no family, the amount is deposited for them. To be eligible, the young men must be between the ages of 17 and 23½ years, unemployed and in need of employment, of good character, unmarried, out of school and physically and mentally fit and able to do manual work.

"We hope that a large number of young Negroes will take advantage of the opportunities offered by the CCC camps," Foster stated. "These camps offer a splendid opportunity for young men to keep in good physical condition while at the same time they become self supporting and help their families."

Ramspeck Bill To Aid Fed. Workers

OCT 12 1940

WASHINGTON.—(ANP) Passage of the Ramspeck bill, now being considered by house and senate conferees, indicates a perpetuation in office of the various employes now in the various alphabetical agencies organized under the New Deal, it is asserted here by opponents of the bill.

Taking some 200,000 persons and giving them civil service status in all agencies excepting the WPA, which is regarded as a temporary agency, adds to the already heavy civil service roll of some 900,000 persons.

Contrary to general opinion, the majority of these workers are scattered throughout the country and are part and parcel of the various organizations affected by the New Deal.

Included in the lists of persons to be affected by this new blanket law are a number of well known Negroes who would qualify under the examination, including Mary McLeod Bethune; Dr. Frank Horne of the housing authority; Joseph H. B. Evans of the NYA, Emmer Lancaster of the department of commerce; W. A. Trent o fthe PWA, and numerous CCC executives who serve as educational advisors and such for that unit. In the Reconstruction Finance corporation, there are some 60 or more messengers who would be included in the general blanketing in the scores of NYA persons who hold supervisory jobs throughout the country.

Not included in this bill would be the WPA workers and officials inasmuch as the WPA is considered a temporary organization. The same would hold true of the National Defense commission, which deals with the national emergency, and also is considered temporary.

Under the provisions of the bill, a person would have to be on the job for six or more months before he or she would be eligible for the qualifying examination. This precludes the inclusion of T. Arnold Hill, recently named as Mrs. Bethune's assistant.

Discussions have been hot and heavy in the hearings on the matter and the conferees have had some 32 points to consider and adjust before the report was made ready. All of the points which were adopted were included in the report, the most important of which was the elimination of the photograph from the civil service applications and the substitution of fingerprints.

However, there seems to be a definite trend toward the adoption of the Ramspeck bill, which has had the attention of the entire "temporary" governmental employees family for a number of months.

The passage of the bill will meet with the approval of those now in office and insure their retention through the years as part of the civil service. As one proponent of the bill said, it is far better that these people now in the service should be retained than to have a new group unfamiliar with governmental techniques come in with a change of administration and have to learn all over what should be done and how to do it at the expense of the people they are supposed to serve."

EFFORT MADE TO ABOLISH WPA PROJECT

Fight Closing of Sewing Project for Race Women in Charleston, S. C.

NOV 16 1940

NEW YORK, Nov. 14.—A deliberate atempt on the part of the local administrator to abolish the WPA sewing project for Negro women in Charleston, S.C., while renovating and enlarging a similar project for white women, is being investigated, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People announced today.

According to a complaint made by the association's Charleston branch, E. P. Grice, the loal WPA administrator, losed the sewing project where Negro women are employed, on October 28, and has refused to hold a conference with a N.A.A.C.P. committee, which seeks to reopen this project. The complaint states further that about 300 county sewing projects employing white women have been closed and these women brought into Charleston to work in the enlarged project there. Negro women, on the other hand, are being sent from Charleston into the rural areas to work in diet kitchens, wherever openings can be had.

Denying that the enlarged project for white women constituted discrimination against Negro women in Charleston, Lawrence M. Pinckney, State WPA administrator for South Carolina, told the N.A.A.C.P., in a letter dated November 5, that the new project was set up in accordance with standards approved in Washington.

TELLS WHO "GOT WELL" WHEN MORE ABUNDANT LIFE WAS USHERED IN

Franklyn Lists Few Of The Idle Rich Whom WPA Blessed With Money Intended For People On Relief

By Franklyn Waltman

Washington, D. C.—So often have the New Dealers told us they are for the 'more abundant life" that we regard the phrase as a mere meaningless cliche. Yet we should not. They have done much to provide a "more abundant life" for certain persons, as is demonstrated by the hearings of the House Committee Investing W. P. A., just made public.

Of course we knew that the entire Roosevelt family, including all the children and in-laws—have enjoyed a 'more abundant life" during the last seven years. Likewise we have known that many of the New Dealers in this period have enjoyed a more abundant life than ever before.

But until the publication of the hearings in the W. P. A. investigation we did not know that money appropriated by Congress for the relief of unfortunate persons in distress was going to build yacht basins and golf courses for persons in comfortable circumstances. Nor were we aware of the "abundant life" being led by the Deputy Commissioner of the W. P. A., Howard O. Hunter.

Contained in the W. P. A. Hearings just made public is a 90-page summary of findings made by the House Investigating Committee's agents in a number of States. We shall quote, verbatim, a few excerpts from that summary.

POOR YACHTSMEN ON RELIEF

Under the heading "Municipal Yacht Basin Sponsored by the City of New Orleans," the report states W. P. A. expended $93,097 on this project and adds: "The chief beneficiary of this project will be the Southern Yacht Club and a part of the work is to be done on the property owned by the Southern Yacht Club, a private corporation." * * * The work comprehended the building of lockers and boat slips, etc., on the property of the Southern Yacht Club."

Under the heading of "Golf Course and Clubhouse at Mandeville, Louisiana, sponsored by the State of Louisiana," the report gives the cost of this project to W. P. A. as $22,243 and adds that the work comprised "development of a golf course on State-owned property * * * including clearing and grubbing approximately 50 acres, grading, fertilizing and sodding fairways, tees, greens and traps (approximately 335,000 square yards) and the building of a clubhouse."

"This project is some 57 miles from New Orleans and in effect serves only as a private club to a few prominent citizens who have large estates adjacent thereto," the report asserted, adding: "Work on the project has been discontinued but over $100,000 has been expended on it."

BRASS HATS ATE AVOCADOS

Turning to the State of Washington, the House investigators found that a "household demonstration project" in Seattle, which contemplates training girls in household work, purchased its food from one of the most exclusive and expensive grocery stores in the city. A sample page of a food order contained such items as "almonds in shell," "asparagus, frozen" and "avocados." But let it not be supposed that those on relief received such high-class rich food, for the report states that from March 2, 1938 to March 30, 1939 "a total of 1,049 guests were served meals at no cost to the guests" and "these guests were high Government officials. W P A officials. local politicians and civic leaders and their wives."

Down at Spokane, Washington, the investigators found that "a stone wall and stone posts were built (by W. P. A. labor) on property of the Country Club golf course, a private club." The report added: "W. P. A. officials admit that the wall is on the roadway of the club and is of no benefit to the public."

One item in the report on W. P. A. operations in Pennsyvania had to do with a highway beautification project said to cost $400,000 undertaken on property owned by the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad." Another paragraph in the report on Pennsylvania read:

"Retaining walls were built, roads constructed, buildings moved and improved, and dams built on private property as well as on private property owned by W. P. A. officials. It is likewise shown that roads were built which would peculiarly benefit certain individuals. It is impossible to give exact costs of these various items for the reason that they are included under official projects and were accomplished out of funds and with labor assigned to official projects."

RACE TRACK BUILT IN CALIFORNIA

Out in California the investigators found that "W. P. A. expended the sum total of $521,047 on the construction of a race track at Del Mar, California." The report added that "W. P. A. officials admitted there was no justification for these projects for the reason that all but one of the twenty-some buildings constructed there are now being used for horse-racing purposes."

Then down in Florida there was the W. P. A.-built Marianna golf course. The report stated that "the Marianna Country Club Association sold memberships to '35 of the best and most prominent people in the section' at $100 each with the idea in mind that these members would be entitled to life membership in the club when it took over the operation of the golf course."

Still another Florida item read: "Notwithstanding there were over 250 certified relief clients awaiting assignment to W. P. A. in Gainesville, eighteen members of the University of Florida football squad were carried on the payroll of W. P. A. during June, July and August, 1938, as certified relief clients under fictitious identifiaction numbers. The then State Administrator, his administrative assistant, the dean of the University of Florida, the coach of the university's football team, and chairman of the State Welfare Board all conspired together to accomplish this illegal purpose."

Speaking of football, there is the case of Howard O. Hunter, Deputy Commissioner of W. P. A., whose travel allowances from the Government for the period from August 1, 1934 to January 31, 1940 totaled some $17,000. By the sheerest coincidence Mr. Hunter has 'official business" in New Orleans each Thanksgiving Day and each New Year's Day when the big football games are being played in that city. Likewise, he always has "official business" in Louisville, Kentucky, over Derby Day each year. At all events, the Government paid his train fare on these occasions.

So, you see, there is more to this business of W. P. A. relief than meets the naked eye.

SLATE HEARING ON RANSPECK BILL IN SENATE

Measure Would Abolish Civil Service Loophole For Discrimination

WASHINGTON, April 26—(ANP)—Hearings before the civil service committee of the Senate on behalf of the Ramspeck bill, which has already been passed by the House of Representatives, are bringing to light some of the same injustices presented the supreme court group hearing when an investigation of the civil service commission practices were under way.

Chief among the things asked for in the matter of protecting Race workers who would qualify under the provisions of the bill are the establishment of an appeal board in each department, one member of which would be colored, the elimination of the picture business, established in 1914 by the commission itself and the opening of the non-competitive examination to all now employed in various departments of the government not now included in the civil service.

This does not take into consideration the workers on the WPA, but includes some 15,000 persons engaged in work in various alphabetical set-ups of the government.

Such a bill if passed would bring the civil service workers in the United States to the hitherto undreamed of total of nearly a million and a half workers.

NEED FOR IMPROVING WPA WORRIES SOLONS

Proponents Of Bill Seeking More Funds

WASHINGTON,—(A.N.P.)—Realizing the failure of the WPA to solve the problems of the unemployed, especially among Negroes, proponents of the bill now seeking funds for next year are anxiously inquiring what can be done to improve the general situation.

For after seven years of the New Deal spending, the total unemployment has been a trifle larger than it was at the beginning of the new era.

Among the things the discussion brought forth was vocational guidance and instruction for the millions of unemployed on the WPA. Especially is this true as far as Negroes are concerned, for the records prove that Negroes are on the WPA roll longer than any other group and by virtue of the 12-months rule, have suffered terribly.

Declaring that the need nowadays is for tradesmen and trained workers, there is hope that the WPA will instigate such training as part of its program in the coming year, for it is a foregone conclusion among even the staunches supporters of the bill that WPA cannot go on forever. Unemployed Negroes must develop new trades and skills, and supporters of the WPA are loathe to force new taxes while they are still idle.

Although President Roosevelt has asked for one billion dollars to carry out the program in 1941, Col. Harrington, the administrator of the WPA believes this sum too small by one half and suggested to the committee on appropriations that a billion dollars and a half be set aside as the amount of money necessary to carry on the work.

However, whatever benefits are to be derived by the Negroes on WPA, it is said, should come thru the office of Alfred E. Smith, in charge of race relations, for although Mr. Smith is not entrusted with the raming of policies of the WPA even though they effect the group he represents, his suggestions, it is thought, if made, might receive consideration from the powers that be, those that do form policies.

GREAT CONCERN

Great concern is being expressed over the Negro situation in the WPA—whether from the political view point or the humanitarian view point is debatable, say those who have followed the hearings. But there is considerable agitation over the place of the Negro in the economic program of the country in its desperate stab at a plan to eliminate some of the unemployment, which economists are trying to make the others believe will be a permanent part of the government.

Those who have worked on the WPA and those who are at present on the WPA, especially Negroes, are asking "what would we have done without the WPA-" and they are tenaciously holding on to the dole handed out to them, making themselves economic problem number one, while leaders of the legislative branches of the government are inquiring of all they meet, "What is the Negro doing to try to help himself?" The question usually leaves the Negro in a flabbergasted state—with the inference that the Negro is depending on the government to support him.

Some are inclined to call the WPA, the "old man of the sea" after the famous fairy tales telling the story of Sinbad the Sailor.

Findings Of The Interfaith Conference On Unemployment

WASHINGTON, D.C., June 4-6,—The Conference submits the following findings to the convening agencies, the Industrial Division Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America; the Social Action Department, National Catholic Welfare Conference; the Social Justice Commission, Central Conference of American Rabbis and the Social Justice Committee, Rabbinical Assembly of America.

Unemployment is a dreadful scourge and a social sin. It is a major cause of war, and poverty and an indictment of our society. Yet most of us have been indifferent and irresponsible in our attitudes toward this most critical problem.

The moral effects of the continued unemployment of nine million or more workers are evident. Enforced idleness demoralizes personality, makes it impossible fo families to live normal, healthy lives, and prevent their participation in community life. These conditions must now become the common concern of the nation. The religious bodies must supply the moral dynamic for changing them.

Unemployment must not be continually relieved—it must be abolished. It is the plain duty of the religious bodies to demand a thousand times more loudly than ever before that the necessary steps be taken to use our great resources and to work out procedures in accord with democratic principles.

Solutions cannot be found without individual and social sacrifices. The employed, the fortunate, must identify themselves with the unemployed and be willing to make sacrifices in order to bring about the abolition of unemployment. Only high spiritual attitudes will bring justice. The moral will should be expressed effectively in terms of right social relations.

It is imperative that just social relations be attained, because economic desperation will lead many well-meaning citizens of all classe into great temptation. When people are confused and embittered, not knowing where to turn, they seek scapegoats, thus arousing race natreds. People haunted by insecurity are most likely to become the easy prey of ruthless leaders, including would-be dictators who make large promises but take away liberties. In these times of emotional stress it is doubly necessary to emphasize democratic procedure and rights.

Whatever may be the needs of national defense, stimulation of industrial activity through the production of arms will not provide a permanent method of abolishing unemployment. This has been declared by the many speakers mentioning the subject at this conference. Indeed, some have warned that long and increasing production of armaments threatens the production of consumers' goods, and thereby lowers the general standard of living. It is clear that we must all search for sound methods that promise more constructive economic results. The religious bodies have a vital interest in what is socially constructive; in reconciliation and healing; in the arts of peace. Elimination of unemployment requires social thinking of a high order, and social collaboration to work out the plans and put them into effect.

To that end, there should be a continuing commission, composed of representatives of consumers, farmers, labor, finance, manufacturing, commerce, government, education, religion. We hereby call upon the national organizations in these various fields to come together to form such a commission. For enforceable and coordinated action by the organized social forces of the country, governmental leadership is necessary. Government, we strongely recommend, should call these organizations together for devising cooperative, democratic measures to solve the unemployment problem.

Religious bodies dare not escape their rseponsibility to educate, with the aid of informed laymen, in regard to the moral and social aspects of such questions as have been here discussed ,including: the kind and degree of taxation; the relative emphasis upon voluntary and upon governmetal leadership; the role of cooperatives for purchasing, credit marketing; the possibility of setting up democratic economic planning; the importance of preserving religious and civil liberties; the need for n ewsocial789 1234 7890 78907771 new social inventions to deal with new conditions.

These questions should be taken up in religious assemblies, should be considered by the religious press and study courses. They will have religious aspects and implications, and require study in an atmosphere which religious bodies are peculiarly prepared to supply.

We recommend that these finding and a summary of the addresses and discussions of the conference be sent not only to the convening groups and their constituencies, but to all other religious bodies of the nation, with the request that they be given wide publicity.

We recommend that the findings and summary be also sent to the President, all members of Congress, and to leaders of social agencies, voluntary and governmental.

(A summary of addresses and discussions will be printed soon for distribution and study. Requests should be forwarded to Rev. James Myers, Executive Secretary of the Conference at 297 Fourth Ave., Now York City. The price of the Proceeding will be 15 cents per copy.)

COMMUNISTS, NAZIS BARRED FROM WORK BY SENATE MEASURE

Upper Chamber Passes Bill To End 'Oppressive' Labor Practices In U. S.

PLAN GOES TO HOUSE NOW

'Fifth Column' Apprehension Causes Action

TRANSFER MOVE PUSHED

Lower Body Adopts Resolution To Speed Shift Of Immigration Service To G-Men — F. D. R. Asks Air Funds

By The Associated Press

WASHINGTON, May 27.—Sweeping legislation barring Communists and "Nazi Bund" members from jobs in interstate industry, and forbidding employers to use "strike breakers" or resort to other "oppressive" labor practices, was passed by the Senate Monday on a vote of 47 to 20 and sent to the House.

Introduced by Senator La Follette (Prog., Wis.) as a result of a long investigation by the Senate Committee on Civil Liberties, the measure was originally aimed solely at "abuses" by employers, such as the use of strikebreakers, industrial spies and industrial munitions.

Apprehension Felt

However, the current wave of apprehension over "Fifth Columns" prompted the Senate to embrace heartily an amendment by Senator Reynolds (D., N. C.) prohibiting employers in interstate commerce from hiring Communists or Bund members.

The penalties for infraction of this amendment would be a $10,000 fine and five years in prison. No method for detecting whether a prospective employe was a Communist or Bundster was stipulated in the legislation, but the onus of finding out would be on the employer.

Another Reynolds amendment accepted by the Senate provides that not more than 10 per cent of the employes of a firm engaged in interstate industry shall be aliens, except where the supply of citizens is inadequate.

Armed Guards Banned

In addition to banning strike breakers and labor spies, the La Follette bill outlaws, as oppressive labor practices, the use of armed guards outside the employer's premises except to prevent theft of articles in transit and the employment in a labor dispute of private guards known to have been convicted of homicide or assault with a dangerous weapon.

Meanwhile, with a unanimous chorus of "ayes," the House speedily approved President Roosevelt's plan to shift the Immigration Service from the Labor Department to the Justice Department in order to "deal quickly" with Fifth Columns.

The action came on a resolution which would make the transfer effective in 10 days if the Senate also approves and the President affixes his signature. Republicans supported the Administration on the vote, although some of them contended that a simpler plan would be to dismiss Secretary of Labor Perkins as "incompetent."

Alien Measure Favored

The Senate Judiciary Committee approved a bill requiring the Nation's estimated 4,000,000 aliens to be fingerprinted, to register with their local postmasters, and to notify the Government of any change of residence. This measure, passed by the House last year in milder form, provides for deportation of aliens who advocate overthrow of the Government by force, and would impose $10,000 fines for attempts to subvert military forces, by the distributions of unAmerican literature or other means.

Immediate action to finance the vast national defense program—possibly by the double method of increased taxes and additional borrowing—was under consideration Monday night.

Training Funds Asked

An additional $32,000,000 was added to the huge expenditure already in prospect when President Roosevelt asked Congress for that sum Monday to train civilian pilots. With his request he sent a letter from the Budget Bureau saying that the Civil Aeronautics Authority was prepared to undertake immediately a big expansion contemplating preliminary training for 45,000, secondary training for 9000 and advanced training for 40,000 more.

Congress, while awaiting a decision on the financing question, prodded the big armament plan through the various legislative processes. One subcommittee agreed to work far into the night to hasten action on a supplemental $250,000,000 appropriation for the Navy.

At the same time, the men who manufacture machinery which produces the myriad and intricate parts of an airplane and other defense items met here and promised the Government first call on their output. They have been overwhelmed with foreign orders.

Secretary Morgenthau, who conferred with them, said later that he had listed $200,000,000 worth of machine tools needed for the defense program, but had urged that there be no obstruction to the provision of machinery for the automobile industry's production of 1941 models. Retooling of auto plants for '41 models should be completed within a month and ought not to be interfered with, the Secretary said.

The White House indicated during the day that an early announcement — possibly at Mr. Roosevelt's press conference Tuesday—could be expected regarding his plans to form an Advisory Council of industrialists, labor representatives and others to help the Administration co-ordinate defense production.

At the Capitol, it was said that the Treasury was near the end of a study of the problem of financing the defense program, and that some recommendations might be made. There was discussion of the possibility of imposing a "windfall tax" designed to capture for the Government unusual profits which might accrue to any segment of industry as a result of the defense emergency.

Few apparently had any expectation that enough additional taxes could be levied at this session to cover the defense cost. Consequently there was an expectation that, an increase in the national debt limit might be proposed simultaneously. The limit now is $45,000,000,000, and the national debt is approaching that figure. Without new legislation, borrowing which would raise the debt above that maximum would be forbidden.

Million Migratory Workers Jobless WPA Official Says

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich., May 27 (UP).—Nels Anderson, director of WPA labor relations, told the 67th annual national conference on social work today that the nation cannot support a jobless army of migrants numbering somewhere between 500,000 and 1,000,000 idle workers.

"The migration problem," Anderson said, "simmers down to the problem of finding jobs for this army." Migration is carried on in times of prosperity as well as depression, he said, but only in depression is it noticed.

JOB PLACEMENTS FOR YOUTH RISE 38%

Government Finds Work for 345,387 in Six Months

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

WASHINGTON, May 20—More than a third of a million jobs for unemployed youths under 21 were found by the public employment offices in the last six months of 1939, Paul V. McNutt, Federal Security Administrator, announced today. Almost 2,500,000 placements of young people have been made during the six and one-half years since the Employment Service was set up in 1933.

Thirty-eight per cent more jobs for juniors were found in the last six months of 1939 than in the corresponding period of the preceding year. Of the 345,387 such placements made during the 1939 period, 309,133 were in private industry. There has been a six-fold increase in specialized junior-placement facilities since 1937, according to Mr. McNutt.

Along with the overall increase in junior placements in recent years, there has been a notable gain in the proportion of girls placed, as compared with boys, and in the number of jobs found for young Negroes. During the last six months of 1939, placements of girls amounted to slightly more than half of all junior placements and jobs found for Negro workers in the junior group increased more than a quarter above the number of such placements in the same period of 1938.

REST PAY ORDERED IN WAGE-HOUR RULE

WASHINGTON, June 9—(AP)—The Wage-Hour Administration ruled today that employes working under the labor standards act must be paid for "short" rest periods.

The administration laid down the general rule that a rest period "up to and including 20 minutes" shall be counted as hours worked, but added:

"When rest periods customarily taken by employes are longer, final decision on whether or not the employe will be paid for it will rest with the regional director."

BAD NEWS FOR EMPLOYES.

The Pullman company report for 1939 is in such simple form as to be understandable to anybody. Revenue from all sources was 92 million dollars. The largest share, 42.3 per cent of this, went to labor. Materials and supplies amounted to 32.6 per cent. After deducting 13.5 per cent to provide for the replacement of cars and other equipment that is wearing out, 5.6 per cent for taxes, and 1.7 per cent for the salaries of the supervisors and managers, there remained 4 million 100 thousand dollars.

Pullman is an enterprise with assets of a quarter of a billion dollars. And yet in 1939, the most prosperous of the last three years, it earned only 4.3 per cent on the business done—only 2 per cent on the capital invested.

This is not good news for Pullman employés. There is only a scant margin between them and failure. There can, under such circumstances, be little hope for expansion with consequent promotions. The more prosperous an industry, inevitably the more prosperous the employés. Profits mean safety against unemployment and opportunities for advancement.

EXTEND SCOPE OF WAGE, HOUR FIGHT

CHICAGO, April 25—It was announced last week by the United Transport Service Employes of America that the wage recovery suits pending in various Federal court districts against numerous railroad companies have reached the $5,000,000 mark.

This is primarily due to the institution of new suits and the accumulation of penalties since the Wage and Hour law went into effect October, 1938, it was stated.

In a joint statement issued by President Willard S. Townsend and secretary-treasurer John L. Yancey, to date suits have been filed in the northern Illinois District Court against the Illinois Central; New York Central; Pennsylvania; Chicago North Western; Chicago, Western Indiana and the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific railroads. In the southern Ohio District court, similar action has been filed against the Cincinnati Union Terminal Company.

In the Massachusetts District Court suits have been filed against the Boston and Albany, Boston and Maine; Boston Terminal Company and the New York, New Haven and Hartford railroad. In the Washington, D. C. District court against the Washington Union Terminal Company and in the northern Ohio District court against the Cleveland Terminal Company.

To-date, the railroads are liable for damages totaling 18 months of wages due or approximately $2,100 per employe, it was stated.

Uniform Charge for

RED CAP PORTER SERVICE

Amsterdam News
6/1/40 - New York.

In order to improve and standardize Red Cap porter service to the public, it is announced that there is now in effect a flat charge of 10 cents for each bag or article carried at Grand Central Terminal or Pennsylvania Station, New York. This places the porter service upon the same basis, with reference to uniform price, as now prevails in the parcel and locker service.

By thus substituting a fixed payment plan for the custom of tipping, with its accompanying irregularities in the amounts paid, the Railroads will be able to place their Red Caps on a regular wage basis. In addition, the new plan will eliminate controversies and legal complications which have arisen under recent Federal legislation regarding the status of Red Caps as employes and the status of tips as compensation for their work.

THE PLAN WORKS THIS WAY:

Passengers requiring the services of a Red Cap will pay a charge of 10¢ for each bag or article carried by the porter. When the porter has carried the baggage to train, taxi, or elsewhere within the terminal property as directed by the patron, he will collect the amount due. This will constitute payment in full for the service rendered. Red Cap porters will provide this service as employes of the Railroads and will collect for the Railroads the charges made therefor.

The fixed payment plan for Red Cap service is in successful operation elsewhere. It has received the stamp of full public approval. In adopting this plan the Railroads do so with confidence it will make the service much more efficient and attractive to the traveling public.

LEHIGH VALLEY RAILROAD
LONG ISLAND RAIL ROAD
NEW HAVEN RAILROAD
NEW YORK CENTRAL SYSTEM
PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD

Propose Labor Act Penalties

WASHINGTON, D. C. — An amendment to the National Labor Relations Act to prohibit racial discrimination by labor organizations will be proposed while 21 other changes in that act are being considered by the House labor committee, it was learned on Saturday.

The proposed amendment is modeled after the recently-enacted amendment of the New York Civil Rights Law. It provides that no labor organization shall, directly or indirectly, deny a person or persons membership by reason of his race, color or creed, or deny to any of its members equal treatment with all others in any designation of members to any employer for employment, promotion, or dismissal by such employer.

FINE PROVIDED

A violation of this proposed amendment would subject the person or organization found guilty to a fine or imprisonment, or both.

Amendment of the National Labor Relations Act faces a sharp struggle in Congress. This was evident Friday as members of Congress, Labor Board officials and leaders of organized labor studied the changes proposed in the act.

> The first formal indication of a struggle was a statement by Representative Mary T. Norton, of New Jersey, chairman of the House Labor Committee, to which the report and bill of the special committee investigating the law and its administration was referred. Mrs. Norton said the proposed amendments would "practically repeal the law."

Organizations interested in the economic and social security of colored people are expected to join in the movement to have the amendment prohibiting racial discrimination enacted.

BARRIERS SET UP

Discrimination is still practiced by many unions and is an effective barrier against colored persons getting jobs in both public and private employment.

Connivance between railway unions and railway managements in Southern States is believed to be responsible for a steady decrease in the number of colored men employed by railways in that section, while they are barred entirely from railway employment in other sections.

LABOR- 1940
OCCUPATION, WAGES, ETC,

CCC OPENS RANKS TO BOYS NOT IN "NEEDY" CLASSES

WASHINGTON, July 3.—Boys from families in moderate circumstances but not in need of relief, will be considered for enrollment in the Civilian Conservation Corps for the first time in July, James J. McEntee, CCC director, announced last week.

Mr. McEntee asserted that Paul V. McNutt, Federal Security Administrator, had approved a modification of the eligibility regulations governing the selection of young men for the corps to permit such enrollments.

The revised regulations go in force during the July replacement enrollment, when approximately 100,000 young men and war veterans are to fill vacancies caused by the departure of men to accept employment because their terms have expired.

The new regulations will make it possible to enroll boys from families in moderate circumstances if the boy is in need of employment and his family is unable to give him needed education, job training, and vocational opportunities.

MUST ALLOT $22

The policy of priority which has been given to young men in the order of need will be followed in the July enrollment, Mr. McEntee said.

All enrollees whose families have incomes below the normal standard in their community must allot home $22 a month of their cash allowance of $30 a month.

Orphans without dependents and boys from families in moderate circumstances will deposit $22 a month with the CCC fiscal agent. Money saved by enrollees is paid them when they complete their enrollment.

Under the 1941 Relief bill which goes into effect on July 1, the CCC is given permission for the first time to add noncombatant military training to its educational activities.

YOU CANNOT compute the tips your employes may receive as part of the wages you pay them. A federal court in Texas rules in a suit under the Wage-Hour Law brought in behalf of red caps at a railroad station that tips cannot be considered as wages.

Chattanooga, Tenn., Free Press
July 13, 1940

Worst Defects Of Wagner Act Not Disturbed

Amendments Fail to Protect Workers Against Tyranny of Unions

By WESTBROOK PEGLER

The amendments to the Wagner act now pending in Congress leave me cold, because none of them gets at the worst defects in a law which was hastily and emotionally miscalled Labor's Magna Charta.

I contend that if my government compels me to join a union, which is a private organization, it must undertake to protect my rights as an American citizen within that organization. Therefore, it must be understood that I designate the union to represent me only in collective bargaining with my employer. It has no right to commit me on anything else. It has no right to indorse any political ticket, platform or candidate, or the WPA, or contribute one cent of the money I am compelled to pay as dues, assessments and fees for any purpose to which I am opposed.

Having made it necessary for me to join a union in order to enjoy the privilege of working at my lawful occupation, my government must superintend the union elections and prosecute those who commit election frauds. It must see that the ballot is kept pure, and that elections are held exactly as provided by the union constitution.

My union must be made to refrain from mob violence or unlawful harrassment, coercion or vandalism, because, obviously, my government has no right to herd me into an organization which commits criminal acts. Otherwise my government drives me into a life of crime.

Similarly, my government must compel my union to observe its contracts, because personally I am very conscientious about contracts and will not be a party to repudiation or violation of a contract. Not only a question of conscience but a question of legal liability is involved here.

My government has got to abolish the taxing power of my union. That is absolutely must, because, obviously, my government has no right to force me into a private organization which taxes me. Only my government has the right to tax me. Moreover, the dues, fees and assessments must be regulated by law, because it will be remembered that I am a member only by compulsion of law.

My government must provide guarantees that the money which I do pay into the union treasury will be spent honestly and fully accounted for, just as public funds are supposed to be spent and accounted for, and must prosecute grafters in the union for my protection.

The membership must be wide open to any citizen engaged in the trade of that union without restriction. This means that if I am a Negro the union cannot bar me on account of my color. It also means tha the union cannot close its rolls and exclude new members in order to monoplize the existing jobs for those who already belong. If the government says I must join the union in order to exercise my right to work, the union must be compelled to admit me. On the other hand, if a union is exclusive, like the Racquet Club or the Union League, as some of them are, and equally expensive, it has no right to invoke government compulsion under the Wagner act.

My government must protect me from suspension or expulsion for any other cause than an offense against the public laws of the state or nation. It cannot permit the union to throw me out for criticizing its officers, methods or constitution. As a citizen I am allowed to criticize the officers, methods and constitution of my state and nation, and the same rights must be guaranteed as to this minor citizenship in the union.

All this, I am afraid, bespeaks rather close supervision of the unions by the government, in short, something very like a Nazi labor front or the Russian system. But they can't have the privileges which the act confers without assuming appropriate responsibilities, and, being private organizations, capable of great abuses, they must place themselves within reach of the law.

My government has its faults, but still I trust it more than I trust the unions, especially in view of William Green's indorsement of criminals in positions of power over the rank and file.

GENERAL

PUBLIC UTILITIES AND JOBS

One of the major planks in the platform of the Chicago Defender is the employment of Negroes on all public utility jobs. For more than a quarter of a century the late Robert S. Abbott, founder of the Defender, made this a paramount issue wherever and whenever he lifted his voice on the question of economic emancipation of the American black man. He was consistent and insistent on this point until death finally silenced him.

His, however, was a solitary voice preaching in the wilderness. Other men of the race with both power and opportunity to speak out for our rights to legitimate employment have either dodged the issue or have directed their energy toward perpetuating themselves in public office. Not until Earl B. Dickerson was elected to the City Council have we had a man courageous, fearless and foresighted enough to carry on the fight on behalf of the people with the earnestness that characterized Mr. Abbott's determination.

Alderman Dickerson has kept faith with the people on all pressing and urgent matters affecting the general well-being of the community. On housing, health, relief, public education, civil rights, and jobs he has been as clear and uncompromising a spokesman of the masses as could possibly be found in public life today. To him belongs the credit for the existence of a commission which is to examine the economic, cultural, health and living conditions of the Negro people of the state of Illinois. It was he who, along with Alderman Benjamin A. Grant, introduced last week an amendment to the pending Unified Traction Ordinance, making it impossible for public utilities to deny employment to Negroes or to discriminate against them.

This is a far reaching amendment with enough legal teeth in it to force open the door of opportunities hitherto closed to thousands of qualified and deserving black men and women. If Mr. Dickerson has not done anything else, his sponsoring of an amendment that will put an end to discriminatory practices so generously exercised by the public utilities would amply justify the trust which the Negroes of Chicago have reposed in him and heighten their faith in his ability, honesty and courage as a leader. Herein lie Dickerson's popularity and the high esteem in which he is held by the rank and file of both races.

The masses believe in him, because he speaks for the masses. He has shown how politics can be practiced on a high moral level without compromising one's character or sacrificing the people's vital interests.

Chattanooga, Tenn., Daily Times
August 23, 1940

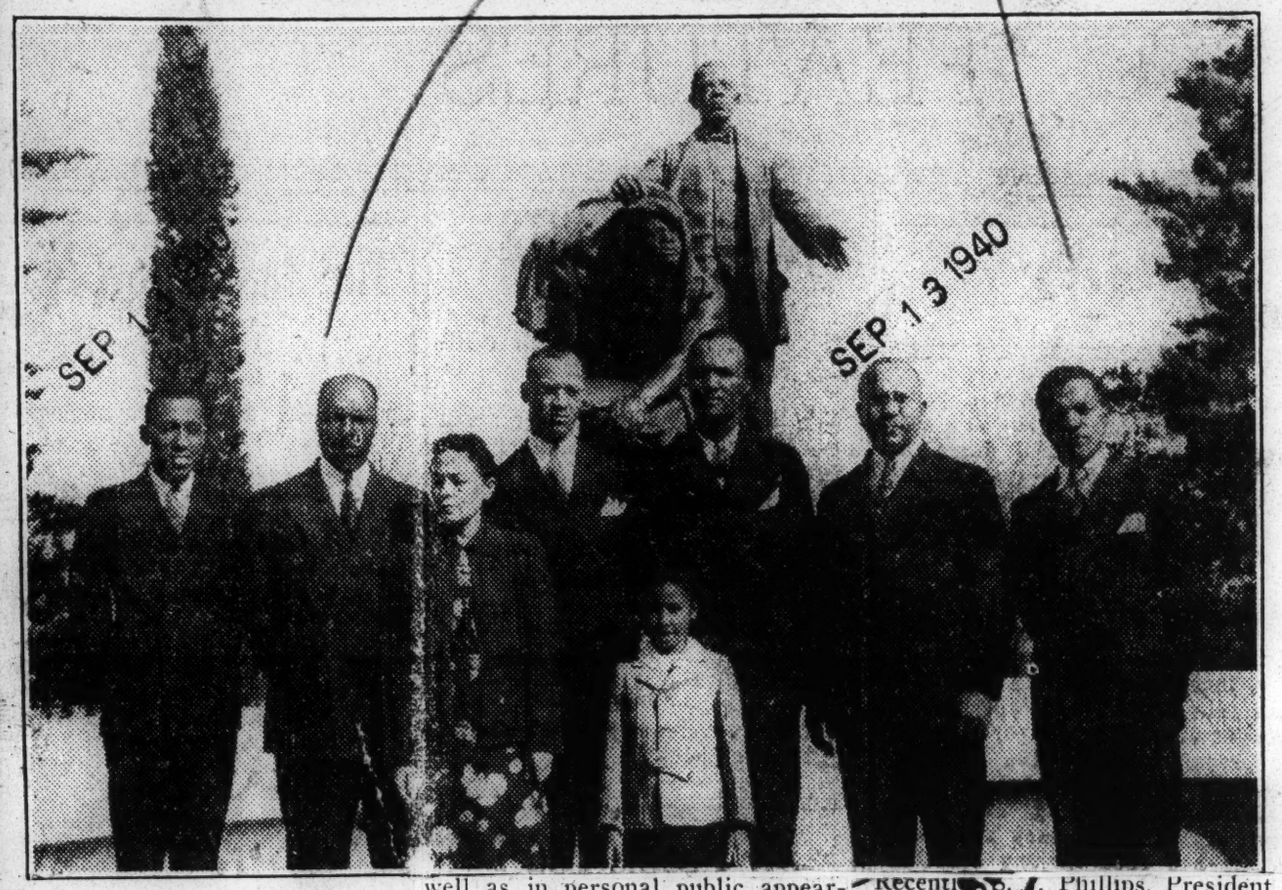
TVA SUPERVISOR HERE URGES NEGROES APPLY

M. W. Boyd, former dean of Morristown College for Negroes and now junior training supervisor for colored in the TVA, was here yesterday in conference with local Negroes in an effort to interest them in applying for work at Watts Bar, Loudon and Cherokee dams and the Watts Bar steam plant.

He distributed application blanks in many quarters in the East Ninth street section, and urged those out of town desirous of the work to go to their nearest postoffice for the blanks, and in Chattanooga to apply at the old postoffice building.

The work will be for skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled labor, and "involves heavy outdoor work. Men who have had experience in construction are especially urged to apply before midnight Aug. 31," the announcement stated.

Sales Agency Force of Tuskegee Institute



TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE ASSIGNED TO PUSH PRODUCTS OF NEHI

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, ALA. —The Booker T. Washington Sales Agency of Tuskegee Institute, Alabama, has been employed by the NEHI CORPORATION of Columbus, Georgia, to make a sales promotion tour among the Negro workers of the North, South and East. The personnel of the Booker T. Washington Sales Agency consists of well trained workers in their respective fields. The NEHI CORPORATION is bidding for the wholehearted support of Negroes generally in the belief that a new field of employment—the advertising and merchandising field—be opened to trained and talented Negro workers.

This Agency is using its artists, the well known "Sons of the South", as an added attraction for the public on this tour. These singers, through their excellent rendition of the Negro Spirituals, have made a very fine reputation for themselves over the air-waves as well as in personal public appearances. They are general favorites over many of the country's leading radio stations and have broadcast over the Columbia and National networks. The Sons of the South have all received their training at Tuskegee Institute, and have all been members of the world-famous Tuskegee Choir. On Thanksgiving last they gave a command performance for the President of the United States.

The NEHI CORPORATION, makers of ROYAL CROWN Cola, NEHI, and Par-T-Pak beverages is making a great contribution to the Negro race by making possible the spread and preservation of this beautiful American music.

The Agency has just completed a tour which included Memphis, Washington, D. C., Baltimore, Chicago, and St. Louis. The Sons of the South made personal appearances at the leading Negro churches and theatres in the areas visited; appeared twice daily at the American Negro Exposition in Chicago; broadcast on the inaugural radio program of the Elks in St. Louis; and sang for many Rotary and Kiwanis Clubs and other leading white groups. They were featured artists on Washington's and Baltimore's largest radio stations. During this tour, the Agency contacted more than five hundred thousand Negroes, exclusive of radio audiences.

Recently S. J. Phillips, President of the Booker T. Washington Sales Agency, was appointed Special Sales-Promotion Representative of the NEHI CORPORATION. Mr. Phillips' wide experience as Field Representative of Tuskegee Institute has given him a wealth of material and contacts that will make many warm, lasting friends for the NEHI CORPORATION.

Shown in the picture reading from left to right: Algie Hough, S. J. Phillips, Mrs. A. V. Mundy, secretary; W. Charles Gordon, Florence E. Mundy, Edward B. Scales and Carl Braxton.

Examination For Government Positions As Stenographer

WE DESIRE to call the attention of our readers to the fact that the United States Civil Service Commission has announced that examinations are going to be held soon for senior and junior stenographer and senior and junior typist. The salaries range from $1,260 per annum to $1,620.

If you are qualified and if you are not employed in a position that gives promise of permanency, you ought to secure a blank before August 15 and arrange to take the examination.

With this kind of work closed to you in big business houses and industrial plants, qualified colored men and women ought to seize this opportunity and other similar opportunities to serve in the numerous government departments and bureaus.

the third term candidate to issue a new emancipation proclamation, or pass the word to Colonel Fleming quietly to give the red caps back their freedom before election day.

Hugh S. Johnson Says Red Caps Dislike New Tipping Regulations

NEW YORK CITY—Mayor La-Guardia wants to mobilize the pullman porters for the New Deal third term. I don't know about the pullman porters. They are railroad employes. Neither NRA nor its successor labor laws could help them much. Certainly the mayor would have harder sledding with the station porters. Both the red caps and the public are regimented by the wages-and-hours administration and they don't like it.

Before the more abundant life came to them, while there was nobody to guarantee their maximum hours and minimum weekly wage and no compulsion on the passengers to pay them 10 cents for every package toted, they found the traveling public reasonably generous. A two-bit tip was usual for a real load. Sometimes it was only a dime and sometimes nothing. But these cases were exceptions — usually old ladies and country bankers of the David Harum type.

A compulsory dime for every package carried was an untried experiment. Now the red caps wish it had never been tried even if, when the public doesn't collectively pay their minimum wages in full, their employers—the terminal or railroad companies — have to make up the difference.

The boys variously estimate to me that it has reduced their incomes on the average from 10 to 25 per cent. They would prefer Adam Smith's doctrine of laissez-faire to the Henry Wallace thesis of "regulate everything." They want their rugged individualism restored.

"I don't believe the story some of them like to tell about servicing a swanky orchestra when one red cap got a dime for wrestling on a windy day a distance equal to two city blocks with a great bull fiddle, while a crate collected half a buck for carrying three piccolos and a cornet. I don't believe it, but it shows what's wrong.

Formerly, and because he didn't have to, the average passenger with one man-sized grip, willingly gave a quarter for carrying it. Now Uncle Sam tells him that 10 cents is enough and that the porter must take it—and like it. He takes it but he doesn't like it, and the average passenger never pauses to give that discontent a thought.

Sometimes, as in a recent experience of our first lady, who left a train with seven parcels, what with the hurry and bustle and this and that, the passenger forgets the new rule and, as in that experience, hands out half a buck and thinks it generous. It used to be, but now the tariff should be 70 cents. The carrier-for-hire relationship has not yet been sufficiently established for these small enterprises to demand the extra dimes. Just the same, they get debited by the company exactly as though they had been collected.

* * *

This may also be imagination, but some of the red caps think they see a tendency to fewer but larger pieces of luggage. If not, why not? It has always seemed to me that, where there are plenty of porters, the European practice of traveling about with a single suitcase harnessed for portage and as big as a pullman trunk is much more convenient. Couple that with a little toilet case you can carry in your hand and, under this new regimentation, your carrying charges will only be "10 cents, a dime, twice the 20th part of a dollar"—and all the red caps will get hump-backs and starve to death.

The new system is also inconvenient to both the public and the porters with its red tape delay of claim checks and receipts. If he wants to corral the station porters' vote, the mayor should get

Sales Agency Force of Tuskegee Institute

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE ASSIGNED TO PUSH PRODUCTS OF NEHI

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, ALA. —The Booker T. Washington Sales Agency of Tuskegee Institute, Alabama, has been employed by the NEHI CORPORATION of Columbus, Georgia, to make a sales promotion tour among the Negro workers of the North, South and East. The personnel of the Booker T. Washington Sales Agency consists of well trained workers in their respective fields. The NEHI CORPORATION is bidding for the wholehearted support of Negroes everywhere in the belief that a new field of employment—the advertising and merchandising field—be opened to trained and talented Negro workers.

This Agency is using its artists, the well known "Sons of the South", as an added attraction for the public on this tour. These singers, through their excellent rendition of the Negro Spirituals, have made a very fine reputation for themselves over the air-waves as well as in personal public appearances. They are general favorites over many of the country's leading radio stations and have broadcast over the Columbia and National networks. The Sons of the South have all received their training at Tuskegee Institute, and have all been members of the world-famous Tuskegee Choir. On Thanksgiving last they gave a command performance for the President of the United States.

The NEHI CORPORATION, makers of ROYAL CROWN Cola, NEHI, and Par-T-Pak beverages is making a great contribution to the Negro race by making possible the spread and preservation of this beautiful American music.

The Agency has just completed a tour which included Memphis, Washington, D. C., Baltimore, Chicago, and St. Louis. The Sons of the South made personal appearances at the leading Negro churches and theatres in the areas visited; appeared twice daily at the American Negro Exposition in Chicago; broadcast on the inaugural radio program of the Elks in St. Louis; and sang for many Rotary and Kiwanis Clubs and other leading white groups. They were featured artists on Washington's and Baltimore's largest radio stations. During this tour, the Agency contacted more than five hundred thousand Negroes—exclusive of radio audiences.

Recently S. J. Phillips, President of the Booker T. Washington Sales Agency, was appointed Special Sales-Promotion Representative of the NEHI CORPORATION. Mr. Phillips' wide experience as Field Representative of Tuskegee Institute has given him a wealth of material and contacts that will make many warm, lasting friends for the NEHI CORPORATION.

Shown in the picture reading from left to right: Algie Hough, S. J. Phillips, Mrs. A. V. Mundy, secretary; W. Charles Gordon, Florence E. Mundy, Edward B. Scales and Carl Braxton.

Examination For Government Positions As Stenographer

WE DESIRE to call the attention of our readers to the fact that the United States Civil Service Commission has announced that examinations are going to be held soon for senior and junior stenographer and senior and junior typist. The salaries range from $1,260 per annum to $1,620.

If you are qualified and if you are not employed in a position that gives promise of permanency, you ought to secure a blank before August 15 and arrange to take the examination.

With this kind of work closed to you in big business houses and industrial plants, qualified colored men and women ought to seize this opportunity and other similar opportunities to serve in the numerous government departments and bureaus.

the third term candidate to issue a new emancipation proclamation. or pass the word to Colonel Fleming quietly to give the red caps back their freedom before election day.

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SEP 22 1940

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Occupational Chances Discussed By Chivers

By WALTER R. CHIVERS
Professor of Sociology, Morehouse College

4-14-40 Daily Worker

ONLY DICTATORS LIKE Hitler, Stalin and Mussolini think that they have the genius to write a single prescription for the employment ills of their people. They do not diagnose and then prescribe according to pathological symptoms. They do like the patient medicine manufacturer, that is, prescribe "cure-alls".

When applied to employment ills, this is called regimentation. Those Negro leaders who prescribe "back to the farm" as a wholesale remedy for Negro unemployment or "the farm as the best chance for Negro youth" are propounding a philosophy close to Nazism or Fascism. At least they assume more than they can deliver.

OPPORTUNITIES MANY

Any careful student of social problems must in the face of plain evidence admit that the possible opportunities for employment of Negro youth are innumerable—as a matter of fact, this evidence reveals better occupational opportunities for Negro youth than for white youth provided they have training which fits thems to seize the opportunities and have dynamic leadership in seizing these opportunities.

There is misleading rumor abroad to the effect that runious competition in urban centers makes the farm more hopeful for Negro employment. The main reasons for growing unemployment among Negroes are the same in rural and urban areas. If any single word which the writer doubts, describes these reasons, it is displacement rather than competition. Poverty stricken, unorganized, partially literate minority groups are not competitors on any real sense of the word.

LIST FIELDS

The fact is that there are numerous vocational opportunities waiting for trained Negroes in the fields so new in the Negro work world and so void of Negroes prepared to fill them that, even in the much abused urban areas. Negroes playing them will know neither competition nor displacement in many a decade. One aspect of these vocations that protects Negroes is their social or semi social nature.

The writer lists here a few vocational fields open to Negroes and pleads with Negro leaders to expend every possible legitimate means in opening up avenues for training Negroes in these fields.

Among the most important of such occupational fields are the following:

Recreation—The advent of shorter work-days has increased the leisure-time problems of a great mass of Negroes. Thus is created a real need for beneficial recreation which can only be given by trained leaders. Federal and local governments are regularly employing persons prepared in this field.

SOCIAL WORK — Particularly those divisions labelled as case work, child guaidance, mental hygiene and social research. There is sufficient evidence to warrant the assertion that the field of social work will offer more opportunities in the future than in the past. Special attention is called to social work opportunities offered by Federal and local governments.

CHEMISTRY—(Other than the teaching profession). Industrial chemistry has opened its doors to especially well qualified Negro chemists. As industry is increased it will make larger demands for industrial chemists.

ELECTRICITY—The increasing purchase of radios, electrical equipment (such as, refrigerators sewing machines, and ranges) for home use by Negroes, and the intense program of urban and rural electrification being prosecuted by the federal government, should encourage the preparation of Negro electricians.

GAS ENGINEERING—The use of gas for heating and cooking is ever more popular in Negro homes. Negro mechanics should find this a lucrative field.

APARTMENT HOUSE MANAGEMENT— With the growing trend toward apartment dwelling and low-cost housing in urban centers, there is increasing opportunity for trained Negro managers, superintendents of building and grounds, landscape gardeners, and caretakers.

CHEMURGY— This developing new science has to do with agriculture. It is concerned "with the chemical transformation of farm products into other materials; such as, soy beans into plastics and oil: corn into alcohol for motor fuel, etc. The chemical industry as well as agriculture will benefit both by the chemical conversion of farm products and by the manufacture and sale of fertilizer to make more crops so as to make more chemurgy

Editorial of the Day

WAGE AND HOUR IMPASSE IS FINALLY BROKEN.

[Baltimore Sun.]

Ever since last summer various bills seeking to amend the wage and hour law have been stalled in the house of representatives. The impasse has apparently been due to the reluctance of the labor committee, which has original jurisdiction over such measures, to do anything to which organized labor might object. This consideration has counted for more than the evident fact that the law as it now stands places white collar workers in the intermediate and higher salary brackets in an anomalous position, and the further fact that the "area of production" clause as interpreted by Mr. Andrews, the former administrator, works hardship on many processors of farm products.

Now, however, the log jam appears to have been broken. It was disclosed on Monday that the house leadership had decided to call up the Barden bill amending the wage and hour law at an early date. The Barden bill would exempt white collar workers making $150 or more a month from the provisions of the act, and it would also liberalize the exemptions to processors of agricultural products, all of whom are now subject to requirements of the law unless their plants are within 10 miles of the area in which the products are grown. It may be feared that the decision to bring up a bill embodying these changes and give the house a chance to vote on it is due more to a desire to appease the agrarian groups who object to the area of production clause than to a recognition of the essential injustices which the wage and hour law works. But even so the decision is to be welcomed, for the law cries aloud for amendment.

For the government to undertake by statute to "protect" workers earning substantial salaries against exploitation is highly anomalous. The law was intended to protect only those who are incapable of protecting themselves, that is to say those in the very lowest brackets who are not organized into unions for collective bargaining. To apply restrictions as to hours in the case of technical and office workers who earn far more than the minimum wage serves no purpose except to vex and annoy employers and employés alike. The area of production clause has worked out so as to discriminate in favor of canners and other processors in small towns in the midst of farming regions and against similar firms in larger towns and cities at some distance from the area of production. Some method of correcting this inequality is badly needed and the fact that the house is at long last to debate and decide this and other issues affecting this law represents a step toward a more rational industrial order.

A.F.L. Green Kicks the West Indians Around

William Green, in a letter to A. F. of L. officers and State Federations of Labor, urged them to wire their Congressmen to amend the new army and navy appropriation bills (H.R. 8668 and H.R. 8438) so as to eliminate aliens from all skilled jobs in the Panama Canal Zone.

Green says twelve thousand aliens—colored West Indians and colored citizens of the Panama Republic—are now employed in the Canal Zone as laborers. Four thousand of them are expert trainmen, firemen, policemen, clerks, timekeepers, building tradesmen, etc.

The big labor boss doesn't mind the colored boys doing the laboring work, but he wants them kicked out of the skilled jobs.

President Roosevelt agrees with Green about kicking the West Indians around, but declares that the citizens of the Panama Republic (Reason: good neighbor policy) should have equal employment rights with American citizens.

Green says U.S. unemployed citizens should have first crack at all U.S. jobs, and maybe he's right, we don't know.

So we ask Bill this question:

"Do you also favor kicking all aliens out of jobs here in the States so that the citizens can get work, or is this alien ban of yours reserved simply for the colored West Indians down in the Canal Zone?"

AMENDMENTS TO WAGE-HOUR LAW HARMFUL

N.A.A.C.P. Opposes Them Because Negroes Not Protected

NEW YORK—Strong opposition to the Barden amendments to the Wage and Hour law, on the ground that these proposed changes would shut out from any protection of this Act "hundreds of thousands of Negroes" was expressed this week by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

In a letter to House Minority Leader, Joseph W. Martin Jr., the association said:

"The Barden amendments propose to exempt from the benefits of better wages or shorter hours or both, more than a million and a quarter of the poorest paid American workers, among whom are hundreds of thousands of Negroes. These amendments strike at employees engaged in canning, packing and otherwise processing agricultural products, at workers in the lumber industry and at transportation relating to these industries. Negroes in large numbers are employed in these fields and in same areas they constitute a majority of the workers who would be affected."

The association pointed out also that the amendments would have the effect of denying the protection of the law to thousands of Virgin Islanders who would be made to suffer from "exemptions and differentials."

The protest was sent also to Representatives Mary T. Norton Chr., House Labor Committee, and Reps. Sam Rayburn, Hamilton Fish and Raymond McKeough.

JOBS FOR MILLION WORKERS ON U. S. HOUSING PROGRAM

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Jobs at regular prevailing wages for about a million workers in building trades and allied industries are represented by unfilled requests for Government loans to finance public low rent housing projects now on file with the United States Housing authority.

The estimated pay roll for these workers would put approximately $500,000,000 into general circulation.

These requests, totaling $1,006,900,000, upon which the USHA cannot act until Congress authorizes additional loan funds have been filed with the USHA by 181 local housing authorities in 32 States, the District of Columbia, Hawaii and Puerto Rico.

The loans sought would be used to provide safe and sanitary homes at rentals within their means for about 226,000 low income American families now living in substandard structures in urban, suburban and rural sections.

An analysis, based on experience in the present USHA program, made public today by USHA Administrator Nathan Straus, stresses the potential contributions to national business recovery of this more than a billion dollars of building activity that is seeking release.

This analysis shows:

Jobs for about 740,000 building trades mechanics and laborers would be provided on the sites of approximately 600 public housing projects in 181 communities.

Around $327,000,000 would be paid out on the sites as wages to workmen. Most of this money would be translated into increased business for every commercial and professional activity in each of the 181 communities seeking USHA loans.

About $407,000,000 would be used to purchase construction materials for the 226,000 homes in 600 projects for which loans are asked.

Production and transportation of these construction materials would require the work of approximately 250,000 persons for one year each.

A large percentage of the estimated $407,000,000 cost of construction materials would be paid out as wages to workers in building materials industries. Much of these wages, also, would pass into general circulation through stores, shops, garages, theatres, doctors, dentists and other local enterprises in the home communities of these workers.

The current USHA slum clearance and low rent public housing program, which will reach its peak in June, will provide about 512,000 jobs for mechanics and laborers on the sites of 435 projects in about 205 communities. In addition, the labor of approximately 170,000 persons for one year each will be utilized to produce and transport around $280,000,000 worth of construction materials.

Take 'Em Anyhow

THE U. S. Government has posted notice of civil service examinations. The positions are many and the salaries offered are good. These examinations are open to all citizens who may think they can qualify. Any man or woman, who has had training in line with the positions open, should not hesitate to take the examination when the date for it arrives. Negroes have not taken full advantage of civil service; some because they feel that they have no chance because of their race; others, because they have not made themselves fully aware of the training necessary in order to be eligible for civil service positions. To those who fail to take the exams because they feel that they have no chance on account of their race, let it be said that that is a very poor excuse. If you are well trained for any particular work covered by civil service, you have as much chance as any other man or woman, regardless of race in landing the position.

The fact that the Negro is discriminated against to a certain extent, even in civil service, does not preclude the possibility of the well-trained and efficient colored man or woman becoming a civil service employee. The Negro's lack of interest in refusing to take civil service examinations is largely responsible for the belief in some quarters that there are no Negroes sufficiently trained to fill civil service positions. This ought not to be so, and would not be so, if the group sought more to become well-trained and then took examinations whenever offered and for whatever positions open. Training and efficiency counts greatly in government work and only the well-trained, healthy and efficient are desired.

We think the Negro ought to quit thinking so much about the handicaps of prejudice and discrimination and work harder to overcome them through thorough and efficient training. It is much harder to deny the well trained and efficient individual rights and opportunities than it is to deny them to the untrained and inefficient. The trained Negro man and woman who takes the civil service exams and passes with a high average, is more likely to be appointed than turned down. At any rate nothing is lost by taking the examinations, but much may be gained. So, take 'em anyhow.

Red Caps Sue For 5 Million Dollars!

Chicago—(CNA)— Gaining impetus from preliminary decisions, the legal staff of the United Transport Service Employees of America has entered the final stages in the next push in the union's proceedings against several railroads.

Proceedings, in which the stakes include a possible settlement of $5,000,000 or more for 75 per cent of the nation's red caps, has become the largest recovery suit under the Wage and Hour Law and the largest suit ever filed by an American labor organization.

Composed of several prominent Negro and white attorneys, the nine-man emergency legal staff of he U. T. S. E. A. is headed by Leon M. Despres of Chicago and George C. Hayes of Washington.

FIGURES PRESENT NEGRO EMPLOYMENT AT LOWEST POINT

NOV 22 1940

WASHINGTON. — (AP) — The plight of the American Negro is just about at its lowest state as far as employment in gainful occupaions is concerned and if the figures showing the large number of Negroes on relief may be accepted as true.

There seems to be no remedy for this condition, for with attempts to get jobs in the government services, both clerical and professional handicapped, the status of the Negro in the new democracy is pitiable, although few realize it.

One case in particular comes to the public which shows how the Negro is given the run around and maltreated.

A young woman, native of Massachusetts, took the stenographic examination. She was third on the list with a very high average. She received four calls to come to take jobs, all by telegram, and in each instance she was given some flimsy excuse that she was too late or a mistake had been made. Later she sought the sponsorship of a certain senator. The senator phoned one of the departments which had called the young woman and he received the very frank reply, "You know, senator, we do not hire Negroes in this department."

Shortly afterward, the young woman received a call to come to her home town in Boston where a position in the alien registration awaited her. Her own statement follows:

"My job here has not proved to what it was supposed to be. In the first place, the staff appointed was entirely too large for the amount of work to be done, and then the aliens have been rather slow in coming to register. Therefore, we were cut from eight hours to six, then to four, and now four hours every other day.

"Too, I have been unsuccessful in getting an appointment in the federal government since I've been home, although I have received three requisitions and another one yesterday. The first three were at the army base here, the selective srvice, and the social security board. The one for which I had an interview today is in Fall River or North Adams, Mass., at the Boston Chemical Warfare Procurement district of the war department in connection with the defense agency. The only satisfaction I got was at the state selective service where they told me they had decided to use enlisted men to o the clerical and stenographic work."

Railroads Planning Secret Drive To Exclude Red Caps From Wage-Hour Law Benefits, Union Charges

DEC 14 1940

By ERNEST CALLOWAY

CHICAGO, Ill.—From a source close to the inner-councils of America's twenty-four billion dollar industry, it has been learned that the powerful machinery of the railroad lobby is being well-oiled for a heavy campaign at the next session of Congress to pass amendments to the Wage and Hour law, designed primarily to exclude red caps from the Act.

Although plans for this new move on the part of the railroads are being formulated with utmost secrecy and caution, the information has been able to leak through certain reliable channels to ranking officials of the United Transport Service Employees of America, the red caps' union. From all indications, the Association of American Railroads will be used as the "hatchet" in this drive to return red caps to their old tip status, prior to the passage of the Fair Labor Standards Act.

The preparations for this next move of the railroads against their red cap employees indicates an apprehension on their part that the Interstate Commerce Commission will soon declare illegal the 10 cent bag fee and thereby eventually force bona fide compliance with the Fair Labor Standards Act. Not to be done out of their scheme, the railroads will make this new legislative effort to re-establish the old status of red caps, that of depending directly upon public gratuities for their income and support.

A number of lesser railroad officials are privately admitting that the unfavorable public reception of the 10 cent bag charge has been a source of real concern for the higher-ups in an industry which is in great need of public good-will today. Many railroad companies have strenuously opposed the introduction of the hand baggage fee placed upon passengers, but have been whipped into line by the Association of American Railroads, which wields great influence and power in the determination of public policy for the railroads. The western roads, having maintained previous high standards of passenger service have been in actual revolt against this new charge which they feel has affected the quality of their service. One road in particular, the Atchison, Topeka and Sante Fe, quietly dropped the charge a few weeks ago.

Investigation

The United Transport Service Employees Union has been strenuously seeking the adoption of a Senate resolution calling for an extensive investigation of the illegal income garnered from railroad passengers through the 10-cent bag charge. The resolution was introduced recently by Senator Elbert D. Thomas of Utah and was referred to the Senate Committee on Education and Labor. Due to the controversy on congressional adjournment the difficulty of securing a committee quorum has threatened action on the resolution. However, the Wage and Hour Division is in the midst of preliminary investigations at the Washington Terminal and the Grand Central Terminal in New York City.

DEC 14 1940

The Washington Terminal investigation has revealed that during the first 5½ months, red caps have collected from passengers $94,677.33 against company payroll expenditures of $71,799.84, leaving a gross profit for this period of $22,877.49 or $4,149.54 per month. It is estimated that the annual profit from the bag charge for this one station would run well over $50,000.

The Association of American Railroads, which is the usual legislative agent of the railroads for both back-door and front-door work, is now again trying to exclude railroad workers from the benefits of present railroad prosperity.

Dearth Of Skilled Negro Workers "Other Side" Of Unemployment

DEC 19 1940

Philadelphia Tribune

THE TRIBUNE, as every regular reader knows, has been intensely interested in opportunities for skilled and unskilled Negro workers to secure gainful employment in private industry.

We are all aware of the unfair attitude assumed by employers and the labor unions in refusing to hire Negro workers and in denying membership to skilled Negro workmen.

There is, however, another side to this question and it has to do with the fact that often, especially where government-sponsored projects are concerned, on which discrimination on account of race, creed or color is barred by law, there is a dearth of competent, skilled Negro workers.

It is unfortunate that men who see clearly are often so far ahead of their contemporaries. Had the advice of the late Booker T. Washington been generally followed on a nation-wide scale, the supply of Negro workmen in the skilled vocations would be today more nearly equal to the demand.

Philadelphia Pa.

The actual situation which faces us today ought to stimulate parents and youth to take his advice even at this late day. We need the professions; but we also need men and women skilled in vocational and mechanical work. In the crisis which now faces the nation, men and women with mechanical skill enjoy a high rating. Intelligent Negro youth must be led to see the value of occupations other than the so-called "white collar" jobs.

In this connection, therefore, we endorse heartily the suggestion of a leading social worker "that our present experience in this respect will lend itself admirably as a talking point in our efforts to encourage innately capable youngsters to enroll more largely in the mechanical courses of the regular vocational and technical schools."

Secret Drive Hinted To Exclude Red Caps From Wage-Hour Law

Courier Pittsburgh, Pa.

DEC 14 1940

CHICAGO, Dec. 12—From a source close to the inner-councils of America's 24 billion dollar industry, it has been hinted that the powerful machinery of the railroad lobby is being well-oiled for a heavy campaign at the next session of Congress to pass amendments to the Wage and Hour Law, designed primarily to exclude red caps from the Act.

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$45,000 Red Cap Pay Case Is Now Being Studied

Daily World Atlanta, Ga.

DEC 29 1940

ST. LOUIS—(ANP)—The suit to recover from the Terminal Railroad association $45,490 claimed to be due 66 red caps at Union station as back wages under the Wage-Hour law was taken under advisement by United States District Judge George H. Moore Wednesday after submission of an agreed statement of facts and arguments by counsel for both sides.

In the agreed statement of facts it was shown that the red caps received $55,157 in tips for carrying luggage of travelers during the period from Oct. 24, 1938, when the law became effective and last Jan. 3, when the suit was filed. Carleton S. Hadley, counsel for the terminal, contended that gratuities to employes belonged to the employer, and referred to an agreement of Oct. 24, 1938, under which the Terminal guaranteed payment of the minimum legal wage to the extent tips did not reach the minimum. Judge Moore asked whether the company has reported the tips as income and Hadley replied he did not know but thought not.

Charles M. Hay, representing the red caps, argued that any contract to violate a provision of the law was void. He remarked that, even if the red caps got the $45,490 in addition to the $55,157 in tips, the total would amount only to about $100 a month for each man.

59 Out Of Every 100 Negroes Work; Whites Show 47 In Each 100

Washington Civil Rights Conference Brings to Light Some Startling Revelations.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 25.—By lashing the whip of prejudice and refusing the Negro his Constitutional rights the South has forced him to migrate to the North in search of economic freedom, it was decided here last week at the Washington Civil Rights Conference in the Hall of Nations of the Washington Hotel.

More than 400 delegates from almost every section of the United States attended the Conference, designed to help solve the nation's labor, racial and suffrage problems.

Census figures of 1930 revealed that 2,409,219 Negroes live in the North. Fifty-eight per cent were born in the South, while less than one per cent of the Negroes living in the South originally came from the North.

The vast difference in these figures was laid to the fact that the South has refused to permit the Negro to pursue his chosen work unhampered, and has consistently crushed his efforts to progress.

Census figures showed that Negroes have the greatest percentage of workers in comparison with all other groups, with 59.2 gainfully employed against only 47 per cent for the native white population. This bears out the fact that his importance in the building and construction of this country is paramount to any other minority race.

The Negro's determination to secure an education and advance his position in this country was brought out in the education figures. In 1910 only 12,662 Negroes were enrolled in public high schools, while in 1934 in the same states 157,034 were enrolled.

It was pointed out that the South's treatment of the Negro has heaped an unnecessary burden on the North, which has accepted the migration and assumed the responsibility of giving him a fair chance to make a living.

The census showed that of the seven cities with the largest Negro population, six were in the North while only one, New Orleans was below the Mason-Dixon line.

Congressman Joseph Gavagan of New York addressed the Conference on his anti-lynching bill, and declared it to be constitutional and a fundamental necessity if America is to preserve a democratic form of government. He scored the South for trying to filibuster the bill out of the Senate.

Congressman James Seccombe of Ohio introduced a civil rights bill for the District of Columbia. He promised the delegates that would fight to oust segregation in the Nation's capital as long as he possibly could.

Unemployment Is Breeder For "Fifth Column," Says Oxley

CHICAGO, (ANP) — Negroes ill-fed and ill-clothed, desperate because of lack of work, may easily become the nucleus of "fifth column" manoeuverings in Chicago Lieut. Lawrence A. Oxley said last week in a plea for more jobs for qualified Negro workers.

Forming 5 per cent of the city's unemployed, Negroes, innately patriotic and loyal under ordinary circumstances, are nonetheless susceptible to un-American propaganda when the conditions under which they live foster such a change, Oxley declared.

Speaking for the Metropolitan Chicago Conference on Employment Problems of the Negro, Oxley implored labor and industrial leaders to consider this problem with immediate action in mind. The meeting, first of its kind, took place at the Morrison hotel.

"We are not sponsoring the lazy, shiftless Negro, nor is this a fault finding conference," Oxley said. "But through army examinations we have found that race has nothing to do with a man's intelligence. The Negro, exposed to like training with the white man, equals him in ability, and what we want are specific means of obtaining jobs for Negroes who are qualified and bread training programs to which the Negro people may be exposed."

New Agreement Worth $125,000 to Red Caps

CHICAGO. — An agreement covering the 717 red caps of the far-flung Pennsylvania Railroad was signed, last week, between the company and the United Transport Service Employees of America.

The agreement establishes maximum hours of service, seniority rights, grievance machinery and a basic wage of 39 cents an hour or $3.12 per day for red caps in New York City and 36 cents an hour or $2.88 per day for red caps in other cities along the system.

Adds $625,000

With an annual basic wage of approximately $900 in New York City and $830 at other points, the agreement adds over $625,000 to the railroad's annual pay-roll in behalf of red caps.

With this agreement signed and in operation, the two largest employers of red caps in the United States are under contract with the U.T.S.E.; the other company being the New York Central Railroad, with 651 red caps, which signed an agreement early in January.

Townsend Heads Group

President Willard S. Townsend headed the negotiating committee for the union, with the assistance of International Vice-President C. F. Thompson of Philadelphia, General Chairman Elmer F. Trayham of Pittsburgh and District Chairmen Earl Adams of New York City, Harvey Kyle of Harrisburg and Stephen Wright of Baltimore.

'FIFTH COLUMN' HELD MENACE TO THE NEGRO

Seen As Prey for Those Who Would Oppose the U.S. Due to Condition

CHICAGO, (ANP) — Negroes, ill-fed and ill-clothed, desperate because of lack of work, may easily become the nucleus of "fifth column" manoeuverings in Chicago, Lieut. Lawrence A. Oxley said, today, in a plea for more jobs for qualified Negro workers.

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A broader occupational field for Negroes who have the capabilities to fill positions of higher standing is one of the prime requisites today, Oxley declared.

Government Employs Aliens While Loyal Americans Starve

FOR YEARS ON END colored Americans, whose loyalty to America can not be questioned, have been protesting against the employment of aliens by the United States Government and private industry, while they were forced to accept relief.

Apparently it requires events such as those now rocking the world to make those who control America understand that it is not only unfair but dangerous to give employment in key positions to men and women whose loyalty to America is questionable.

THE TRIBUNE does not suggest that all aliens nor all naturalized citizens are members of the "fifth column." But from immediate experiences it has been learned that many of these people are the conveyors of subversive influences. Intelligent people do not rush headlong into a red light. They heed the warning signal and approach with caution.

Those who can hardly speak English are given top positions in American factories and mines while colored citizens are barred on account of their color. Men whose ideals are often contrary to those of American institutions are permitted to wax fat, while loyal Americans starve.

Those "who know not Joseph" have been trained in American shops and factories; have learned the location of American shipyards and airplane factories; have acquired first-hand knowledge of our subways and bridges, while loyal colored citizens have been denied similar opportunities.

The Navy Yard teaches aliens and men of questionable loyalty how to build and man ships while they keep loyal colored Americans out except to sweep floors and cook. The Army is not much better. West Point will accept for training men of un-American ideals but goes into hysterics when a high grade first-class American colored man knocks at the door for admission.

Hotels and cafes give employment to anyone whose skin is white but refuses employment to American citizens whose color is dark.

President Roosevelt and big American business men have coddled with an exceedingly great love people who to say the least, have ideals contrary to those held by those who love America.

Colored men and women have been forced to chew their finger nails while aliens ate big, juicy fat steaks.

During the last World War American business men and the government gave employment to thousands of colored men. Factories and shops opened their doors to them, while aliens returned home to fight for their Fatherland.

The same way colored men can be depended upon during the strain of war, they can be used during peace time. They deserve a better break. And colored people should drive this point home **NOW**

WPA "Dinner Party" Attendance 1,450,000

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Mrs. Florence Kerr, assistant commissioner of Work Projects, disclosed last week that more than 1,450,000 persons attended the WPA professional and service project dinners held throughout the nation on Monday night, May 20. The occasion inaugurated "This Work Pays Your Community Week," designed to acquaint the public with the various activities of the WPA professional and service program.

Reports received in Washington, from State WPA administrators indicate actual attendance at the dinners reported were in New York, Chicago and Detroit where groups of from 3,500 to 4,000 each were entertained in armories.

"We are gratified at this evidence of community interest in the services our projects are rendering to America," Mrs. Kerr said. "Governors, mayors, county officials and representative citizens everywhere have given cooperation to make this the largest 'dinner party' in history."

Texas reported the largest number of dinners of any state, with more than 200,000 present. Other states with large attendance were Illinois, 34,000; Michigan, 53,000; Kansas, 30,000; Massachusetts, 40,000; Mississippi, 48,000, and Missouri, 50,000.

Plans To 'Mobilize' WPA Believed Near

WASHINGTON, D. C., July 11.—Plans for the complete "mobilization" of District and national WPA organizations in the national defense program are expected to be announced momentarily, it was learned at the District building early this week.

Local WPA executives, Col. F. C. Harrington, WPA administrator, and President Roosevelt are understood to have been in daily conferences recently revising the whole WPA program in the light of possible assistance to the military and to civilians in case of war.

District WPA sources point out that WPA sewing rooms might be turned from their present work of making clothes for the needy to making blankets and bandages.

YOUTH UNIT READY

The National Youth Administration is ready to go to work in the program as soon as the District allotment for NYA out-of-work projects become available, according to Albert L. Miller, District youth administrator.

Meanwhile the local NYA is going ahead with its various jobs alert to adjust them to any possible emergency needs.

For instance, the Freedman's hospital project employs 150 girls as nurses' aides. Any threat of war will bring them quickly into line with mobilization plans.

VOCATIONAL GIRLS AID

The 160 girls at the Margaret Murray Vocational school who are being taught sewing, laundry, and cooking also can easily be used in any enlargement of the defense program. They provided thousands of articles for Gallinger hospital last year and are prepared to turn out hundreds of overall garments for use by mechanized units of the army.

Among the various other projects there is the complete woodwork shop at 460 New York avenue, northwest, where 180 boys and 20 girls are leaning a trade and earning a little money.

They are making tennis paddles for District playgrounds, chairs and tables for government agencies and dozens of other wood projects. However, an emergency could quickly shift their talents to gun parts and other defense products.

LABOR- 1940
OCCUPATION, WAGES, ETC.

GENERAL

Race Relations Discussed By LSU Sociology Class

BATON ROUGE, La.—(By Richard Thomas for ANP)—A group of Negro business and professional men of this city laid bare facts with regard to the handicaps they faced to maintain themselves as worthwhile citizens and to achieve success in their various walks of life, before Professor Leo M. Favrot's class in rural sociology from Louisiana State university at the Perkins Street colored school last week. Daily World Atlanta Ga. 4-3-40

Coming at the request of the white class about 15 colored citizens representitng practically every phase of their business and profession told the body that the people to whom their services were relegated also suffered from dire oppression and economic insecurity which as a result made their successes come the hard way.

"It's a marvel how Negroes can take a small salary and actually do so much," stated Mr. Favrot. That statement describes the essence of the meeting.

The business man present computed their annual turnovers in the thousands, and in their talks exhibited that through sheer power of excellence they have been able to carry on. The fact that their Negro patrons were for the most part domestic workers receiving on the average of $3 per week, WPA workers and unskilled laborers severely underpair, presented them a problem that they were constantly trying to solve They told them that lack of hospitalization, proper housing facilities, prejudical attitudes on the part of whites and the low economic sphere into which Negroes are placed were problems for both races to thrash out with action and not word. Dr. Leo S. Butler, physician, told how Negroes were denied admittance to the city hospitals and how domestic workers were forced through their employ

James A. Jackson Tells Why Big Firms Should Employ Colored Agents

Talk Of Popular Employe Of "Esso" Is Made Before Executives Of U. S. Chamber Of Commerce

WASHINGTON, April 25—(ANP) When officials of the National Negro Business League, President J. E. Walker, Memphis, C. C. Spaulding, M. S. Stuart, secretary, A. L. Holsey and Charles A. Barnett, called on the United States Chamber of Commerce officials recently to discuss methods of further cooperation between the two organizations, James A. "Billboard" Jackson, widely known Negro field official of the Standard Oil Company, discussed the matter of interesting Negroes into business generally and set forth some of the advantages which would accrue to great business organizations if they included Negro employes.

In speaking for the group Mr. Jackson told of the 3,000,000 colored families in the United States which compose a market for consumers goods worthy of the attention of any manufacturer. "The market," he said, "can, of course, be reached more adequately by the Negro salesman who knows the psychology and desires of his race more fully than does the white salesman.

"The use of trained Negro workers in a store or concern, whatever the race of the ownership, he continued, would insure the Negro public receiving an understanding service, an assurance of courtesy so often denied them by those of the other race."

Mr. Jackson stressed the fact that many large distributors have found cultivation of the Negro market productive of satisfactory results, giving as an example his own firm, the Esso Marketers.

Breaking down the Negro total purchasing power, Mr. Jackson cited figures for several lines of business. Observing that annually Negroes spend six million dollars for proprietary medicines, two million for toothpaste, twenty-eight million for paint, and nearly a hundred million dollars for motor fuel, he cited the need for integrating the Negro into general business from a purely profit motive, if for no other reason.

Declaring that too often poor judgment has been exercised in selection of Negro personnel for white organizations, Mr. Jackson urged greater cooperation between manufacturing firms and the practical businessmen of the Negro Business League as well as with Negro Chambers of Commerce throughout the country. Citing the value of the Negro market, he gave the following pre-depression figures for salves among Negroes:

Twelve million dollars or 21 per cent of the purchases in Atlanta; $18,000,000 or 12 per cent, Baltimore; $16,000,000 or 12 per cent Birmingham; $4,270,000 or 33 per cent, Mobile; $6,540,000 or 45 per cent, Jacksonville; and similar figures throughout the country.

these cuts," Lasser declared, "not only because they will involve cruel and unnecessary suffering to 4,500,000 of our men, women and children but also because they will plunge us deeper into the economic mire."

Additions to the jobless army were reported this week by the National Industrial Conference Board. The Board disclosed that unemployment advanced by 251,000 during the month of February.

Liberals Push Fight For Increased Jobless Funds; 200,000 Negroes Propped

WASHINGTON. — As the House Appropriations Committee began hearings on the 1941 relief bill, for which President Roosevelt has asked $975,000,000, Congressional liberals made plans this week to wage an intensive fight for more adequate aid to the jobless.

The liberals made known their intention as reports of increased misery among the unemployed streamed steadily into the national capital. Current figures released by the United States Bureau of Home Economics revealed that relief families are subsisting on a budget of 30 per cent below that set by the Federal Agency as a minimum required to maintain proper health.

At the same time the National Negro Congress reported that over 200,000 Negroes dropped from WPA during the past several months had "greatly aggravated" the jobless situation among the race.

Demands for a deficiency appropriation to prevent 800,000 planned cuts, scheduled to begin soon, were voiced by Representative John J. Cochran of Missouri Cochran urged the Appropriations Committee to being in a bill for $38,000,000 "to keep relief workers on the rolls."

Representative O'Connor of Montana assailed the President's budget recommendations as inadequate, and declared that approval of the figure will result in "untold hardships" among the unemployed.

Representative Marcantonic of New York, and making a start toward solving the unemployment problem by calling a national conference of leaders of business, agriculture, labor, unemployed and the professions.

"We urge reconsideration of

'Billboard' Tells Why Firms Should Employ Negro Workers

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THE BLACK WORKER AND THE WAGE-HOUR ACT

Efforts to destroy the effectiveness of the National Labor Relations Act and of the Wage-Hour law have never ceased since the passage of these laws. Now the attack upon the Wage-Hour Act is growing in intensity.

No section of American society has been aided more than have Negroes by both of these measures. All legislative steps which bring greater job security must obviously strengthen the position of the Negro worker, of whom it has always been truthfully said: He is the last to be hired and the first fired.

It should be equally clear to the Negro professional and business men that what increases wages for black workers increases business for Negro merchants. Segregation, discrimination and Jim Crowism have made the Negro merchant dependent upon the buying power of black labor. Our interest, then, in an attempt to weaken the Wage-Hour Act or to lessen the power of labor to bargain collectively, is clear. We are opposed to all efforts at scuttling these protective measures. Our economic base is already the most insecure in the country.

Under these conditions we applaud the defeat of the bill sponsored by North Carolina's Congressman Barden. The attempt to exempt various processing operations because they have to do with farm products in the South is a blow at the living standards of both Negro and poor white.

President Roosevelt said some time ago that the South was the country's most serious economic problem. This truth is well known. Is that sub-human level of living, so typical of the South, to be lowered further in order to secure the vote of the landlords? Or, is our government to protect workers who heretofore have not been able to protect themselves?

If political steps are necessary to strengthen support for good government in the South, let us abolish the poll tax during this session of Congress. But let us not act so as to increase starvation.

Certainly there are elements such as domestic and other sub-marginal workers who should obtain the protection of the Wage-Hour Act. But as for amendments weakening it let your representatives and senators know of your opposition.

We must begin to understand that there can be no legislative action to which we, as a people, are indifferent. We stand for or against all laws and where these support the hand of labor, we cast our "aye" with vigor.

TO FIGHT WPA SLASHES

It has been interesting to us to note that a group of senators are working hard for an appropriation of from $50,000,000 to $65,000,000 to keep the work relief rolls at their present level. This proposed appropriation would be in the form of a deficiency resolution which says that unless the original appropriation is supplemented by more than $50,000,000, the livelihood of more than 600,000 WPA workers will be stopped on July 1st.

The most interesting feature since this matter has come up for consideration is, it is said, that President Roosevelt is not in favor of the deficiency appropriation because there is so much complaint against the present spending and the "mounting of U. S. debts," that he thought "cutting" had to be done somewhere. Viewing the situation the best we can from the distance we are from the scene, it looks to us as though the President suggested the cut in the relief rolls to see what the complainants about the boosting of government expenditures would do or say. It is our further opinion that the complaint and howl against government expenditures was just what the President wanted. Therefore, some of the leaders have been asked, "What would you do in the present situation? Would you supplement the present appropriation or allow 600,000 W P A workers to be dropped from the rolls?" Of course, that question has not been answered, because regardless of the cost to the government everybody knows that it is a dangerous thing in times like these for anybody to propose cutting off 600,000 from their present jobs. It must not be done—it cannot be done at this time.

Shortage Of Mechanics Hampers Defense Work

Several hundred mechanics are needed for work in the national defense program, the United States Civil Service Commission has announced. The Frankford Arsenal in Philadelphia needs machinists, toolmakers, and instrument makers. Workers in a number of trades are needed also at the Philadelphia Navy Yard: boatbuilders, boilermakers, calkers and chippers (iron), coppersmiths, loftsmen, erecting machinists, aviation metalsmiths, shipfitters, and shipwrights. The Navy Yard could also use engineering assistants with experience or education in aeronautical work, for employment in the Naval Aircraft Factory. Aircraft welders and aircraft radio electicians are needed at the Middletown Air Depot in Middletown, Pa.

Applicants for most of the trades positions mentioned must have finished the recognized training period in the occupation for which they are applying, in most cases, a four-year apprenticeship. Copies of the announcements and application forms may be secured from the Secretary, Board of U. S. Civil Service Examiners, at the Frankford Arsenal, Philadelphia, Pa., or at any first or second-class postoffice in the state of Pennsylvania, or from the Manager, Third U. S. Civil Service District, Customhouse, Philadelphia, Pa.

Closing 27 CCC Negro Camps Will Mean Loss Of Jobs For Workers Totalling $54,000

100 Cooks And 150 Boys On Salary Basis Will Be Dismissed In Retrenchment Program

WASHINGTON, March (ANP) — Twenty-seven CCC camps for Negroes will be closed because of the lack of appropriations to continue them, in the general reduction of these camps throughout the country, according to an official closely identified with the government, who further says that this represents one-tenth of the total camps in the country to be discontinued.

Two hundred and seventy-three camps throughout the United States are to be closed down in the general retrenchment program. Of the Negro camps to be closed, it is highly doubtful whether any state or territory will lose more than one camp due to the fact that all-Negro camps are now operated in 27 states.

At the same time, this will mean a loss of 27 jobs by Negroes as educational advisors which pay $2,000 per annum; approximately 100 cooks and 150 boys known as rated men whose pay is from $36 to $45 per month.

WAGES-HOURS AGENCY TO EXTEND PAY RULES

Five More Committees to B Named to Study Industries

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

WASHINGTON, April 8—Encouraged by a Circuit Court decision in its favor against the Opp cotton mill and other textile manufacturers the Wages and Hours Division of the Labor Department is proceeding with measures to bring industry under its minimum-wage regulations.

Five more committees will be appointed soon for the carpet and rug, luggage and leather goods, converted paper products, jewelry and portable lamp and shade industries, it was stated today by Colonel Philip B. Fleming, administrator.

Twelve industrial committees have been appointed and four wage orders issued. Another order for the knitted outerwear and underwear industry will be issued soon. The apparel industry decision will be ready in two or three weeks.

The Opp cotton mills case concerned the attempt of a mill at Opp, Ala., to have the United States Circuit Court of Appeals set aside an order fixing a uniform minimum wage of 32½ cents an hour for the textile industry. The court found the act constitutional and the administrator's procedure proper.

Asked today how reporters covering campaign trips and political conventions should estimate their hours, Administrator Fleming said that they should keep a record of the hours of actual work and submit it to employers. If more than forty-two hours were worked in any week, time and a half should be paid. Otherwise only a regular salary should be paid.

Release Reports of Women's Bureau of Department of Labor on Status of Negro Women Working On W. P. A.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The opportunity to work and acquire new skills, which the Work Projects Administration is giving 100,000 Negro women, is described in recent reports of the Women's Bureau of the Department of Labor as one bright spot in the employment status of Negro women.

As a contrasting background, the Women's Bureau reveals that one-sixth of the nearly 2,000,000 Negro women classified as "gainful" workers are unemployed, while two-thirds of those employed are either domestic servants or agricultural workers and therefore are excluded from the benefits of the Social Security and Fair Labor Standards Acts.

The three reports are based on detailed findings gathered by the Women's Bureau during regular field trips and routine labor surveys. They are entitled "The Negro Woman Worker', "The Woman Wage Earner—Her Situation Today", and "Women at Work."

"Though women in general have been discriminated against and exploited through limitation of their opportunities for employment," the report entitled "The Negro Woman Worker" points out, "such hardships fall upon Negro women with double harsnness. As the members of a new and inexperienced group arrive at the doors of industry, the jobs that are opened up to them ordinarily are those vacated by other workers who move on to highly paid occupations.

"Negro women have formed such a new and inexperienced group in wage employment. To their lot, therefore, have fallen the more menial jobs, the lower paid, the more hazardous — in general, the least agreeable and desirable. And one of the tragedies of the depression was the realization that the unsteady foothold Negro women had attained in even these jobs was lost when great numbers of unemployed workers from other fields clamored for employment."

As a result of this situation, the report entitled "The Women Wage Earner" notes, more than 132,000 Negro women were forced to seek employment as domestics through the U. S. Employment Service offices in April, 1937. "As these workers secured employment," the report states, "they joined an army of 2,300,000 other women wage earners of both races who, by the nature of their work, are not benefited by any present wage and hour legislation. Nearly half of these 2,300,000 women workers are Negroes."

The report gives significant statistics on the kind of jobs Negro women are able to get. About 11,500 Negro charwomen, 3,000 janitors, and 4,400 elevator operators made up one-fourth of all women in these occupations. More than 47,500 of all women working in laundries were Negro. More than 18,000, working chiefly as stemmers, were employed in tobacco manufacturies; nearly 12,000 were in furniture factories, and 6,800 were in box, basket, rattan and willow-ware factories.

"The making of cheap fruit boxes and baskets gives employment to Negro women in the South," the report says. "The State of Virginia reported more than 400 Negro women at work in 1935 on veneers and veneer containers. Employment in each of these industries declined from 1929 to 1937. This was very low-paid work."

After describing employment conditions before the Civil War and the labor upheavals that followed it, the report entitled "women at work" discusses occupations opened to Negro women, wage and salary differentials based on race, and the failure of most minimum wage laws to aid Negro women workers.

"Although one-fourth of all Negro women workers live in states with minimum wage laws," this report observes, "under present limitations of the laws only one-tenth of the Negro workers are covered."

Concerning the Work Projects Administration the report states: "Not only did WPA jobs provide Negro women with subsistence, but in many cases their jobs were teaching them new skills which they could use later in private industry. What is more, their WPA work in most cases is providing new and useful service to their communities or to other people in need of such services throughout the nation. Clothing, bedding, and other household goods made by WPA workers have been distributed to other unemployed and to hospitals and institutions for the needy. The same has been true of foods canned or processed by WPA workers. Teachers from the WPA have brought the first knowledge of reading and writing to adults who never had a chance to learn before; nurses and household helpers have gone out to give aid in homes broken by disease and poverty; players and singers have brought color and music to people whose lives were dull and drab. And so the WPA has opened up many bright vistas for the woman worker today."

Besides providing unskilled work, WPA projects have given training and employment to Negro women in skilled, technical, and professional work. For example, an aerial mapping project, sponsored by the Rural Electrification Administration at Howard University, now employs forty-seven Negro women. Many other projects in all parts of the nation are helping to fit Negro women for better jobs in the future.

Negro Jobs On WPA Threatened

Ogr 4-6-40 New York, N.Y.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—A grav warning was contained in a statemen issued by the National Negro Congress this week concerning reduction of numbers of WPA workers during recent months. The statement pointed out that the number of Negro workers who had jobs on WPA had dropped from 485,000 to less than 200,000 and that further serious reductions threatened to deprive many additional thousands of needy Negro workers of WPA jobs if the budget proposed by President Roosevelt was adopted in his sessions of Congress.

House May Alter Wage-Hour Law Despite F. D. R.

Test Votes Indicate Okeh; Wagner Act Inquiry Resumed

WASHINGTON—(AP)—Test votes on parliamentary questions strengthened indications today the House would approve amendments to the wage-hour law despite President Roosevelt's advice to wait a year.

Just how far these revisions would go was a riddle remaining to be answered when the roll is called next week. The president spoke out specifically against the Barden amendments, most far-reaching of those under consideration.

While the House was arguing this issue, the Smith committee resumed its inquiry into another field of labor legislation—the Wagner act and the National Labor Board. The decision to renew public hearings was interpreted generally as an attempt to whip up sentiment for sweeping changes in the Wagner act.

The House voted yesterday to take up all wage-hour amendments before it learned of a letter from President Roosevelt to an unidentified friend saying that it is too early to know whether changes are needed in the law.

Chairman Norton (D., N. J.), of the House labor committee, who will offer the letter formally during the expected rough-and-tumble debate, interpreted it as voicing opposition to any revisions at this time.

Proponents of revision defeated, first by the narrow margin of 189 to 185 and later by 167 to 92 and 233 to 141, three attempts to prevent the House from considering any wage-hour amendments this year.

Before their victory, however, they were forced to concede a point. On a motion by Representative Cox (D., Ga.), chief House foe of the wage-hour law, the proposed amendments were opened to any and all change.

This vote came after there were indications from both the Republican and Democratic sides that the members would refuse to consider any amendments if the doors were not thrown wide open.

The Cox forces had hoped to shove through the Barden amendments unchanged.

Despite this concession, Cox predicted that the Barden proposals would be adopted. They would exempt a large group of processors of farm products from the minimum wage provision, now 30 cents an hour, and the maximum work week, now 42 hours.

Two other sets of amendments also are before the House. One, approved by the labor committee, would exempt many of the agricultural processors from the hours' maximum but would leave the wage minimum unchanged.

The third group, by Representative Ramspeck (D., Ga.), would make no change in the agricultural processing field but would exempt white collar workers receiving more than $200 a month.

WAGE-HOUR AMENDMENTS

The House today will take up several sets of amendments to the Federal Wage-Hour Act. None of these are the sort of fundamental changes that are really required. The most important proposals are those embodied in the Barden bill. A main section of that bill extends the scope of the various operations in the handling and processing of farm products to which the wage and hour provisions are specifically not to apply. It is difficult to see the justification for some of these exemptions. As the ostensible purpose of a Federal minimum-wage law is to protect marginal labor, such a law, assuming it necessary, ought to apply to all such labor to the greatest extent practicable. The only excuse for exempting "agricultural" or any other work is the sheer administrative difficulty of covering some of it. To exempt various processing operations, even though they may be carried on in large establishments, simply because they have to do with farm products, shows a keener sense of political expediency than concern for underpaid workers. The defects of the Wage-Hour Act should be dealt with by reconsideration of its main provisions rather than by discriminatory exemptions.

The Barden bill seeks to exempt from the provisions of the Wage-Hour Act any one receiving "a guaranteed monthly salary of $150 or more." This is no doubt honestly intended to restrict the application of the present law, which by almost universal agreement should not apply to highly paid workers. But the question may be raised whether such a provision does not in effect definitely extend the application of the act. When the act was first passed most of the Congressmen who voted for it doubtless believed that the wage provisions would apply only to marginal labor. The joker lay in the so-called hour provisions, which provided that 50 per cent more per hour must be paid eventually for all working hours over forty,—no matter what the employer was previously paying for a working week. This has been interpreted, in practical effect, to establish a different minimum wage for each employer, based on the wage that he himself was paying when the act went into effect. The provision with its interpretation has dangerous possibilities in making wage rates rigid. "Restricting" the application of the Wage-Hour Act to persons getting less than $150 a month, in short, has the incidental effect of extending its application to all persons getting up to that amount. Instead of applying merely to the lowest paid workers the act would then definitely cover much the greater part of our whole working population.

Mechanized Labor Sets Both Races Adrift In Country

Atlanta, Ga.
Daily World 4-8-40

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(ANP) **Menacing the conditions of certain sections of the United States, migratory workers are fast becoming as much a problem to the government as the mooted question of unemployment and relief—and the migratory problem is not confined alone to whites. Thousands of Negroes now are on the move and have been forced by mechanized labor to leave their former homes to seek work elsewhere.**

Florida, that bottleneck peninsula separating the Atlantic Ocean from the Gulf of Mexico has in the past few months become the haven on the Eastern coast for workers driven from their homes in South Carolina and Georgia by the wheels of progress in the form of mechanized labor.

Texas, especially the fertile Brazos valley, is another section which is looked upon with favor by these "citizen refugees."

California, long the goal of many migratory workers, has become jittery and now issues a statement of fear, fear that the Negro workers who are seeking relief and employment may become a much greater problem than the other migratory workers seeking entry into the state.

For years, it is reported by officials who know, the panhandle sections of Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, have been cultivated by mechanized labor, huge tractors and other machines doing the work. Other section were unaffected because of the size of the tractors too big for use in the eastern areas. But now, the manufacturers are making smaller machine suitable for work on smaller farms. And every time a tractor is put into operation, some eight families are thrown out of work and off the farms.

This practice, now becoming general in the eastern areas is sending into Florida hundreds of Negro families, seeking seasonal work. At first, the attitude toward the Negroes is one of disdain and fear. This soon wears off when it is found that the Negroes seek only work and do not displace any other folks at work.

Then they are finally accepted as a necessary part of the picture

R. R. Suit Watched By Porters

Outcome May Affect Jobs Of Thousands

PHILADELPHIA — (ANP)— A suit, engaging the attention of Pullman Porters throughout the country, was filed here in federal District court Friday by the department of justice against the Pullman companies and 31 individuals, including nationally known financial leaders, in a civil action to sever control of sleeping car manufacture from operating of equipment.

Among those named are J. Pierpont Morgan, Richard K. Mellon, Sewell L. Avery, Alfred P. Sloan, Jr., Harold S. Vanderbilt, Georgia Whitney, C. W. Seabury, and H. S. Morgan, all directors of one or more of the companies.

The complaint charges Pullman companies with refusing to operate modern lightweight railroad equipment purchased by the railroads from any manufacturer other than the Pullman-Standard Car Manufacturing company, and threatening to withdraw the existing sleeping car service and operations if railroads should buy and operate themselves any cars made by other manufacturers.

"Artificial and unreasonably high prices for Pullman accommodations and noncompetitive terms made with railroads furnished with sleeping car service by the Pullman organization through its alleged monopoly" was further charged in the statement.

The Pullman company is declared to own nearly 6,000 sleeping cars, many of which are more than 20 years old, and "in an endeavor to protest these obsolete cars from the competition of new types of rolling stock, forced the railroads to use existing equipment and prevented them from operating lightweight, streamlined sleeping cars."

As a result, it was alleged, "the production of modern railroad equipment by independent manufacturers and its use by the railroads have been hamstrung."

The anti-trust division of the department of justice has been studying the Pullman company for some time, it was revealed, and is proceeding by civil action rather than by criminal action because the contracts between the Pullman organization and the railroads which contain provisions alleged to be in restraint of trade have been publicly recorded for many years with the Interstate Commerce commission.

As the suit progresses, it may tie up Pullman service, resulting in temporary unemployment for many thousands of Pullman workers

Houston Presents Case Of Negro Labor In U.S. Court

Daily World
9/6/40

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Attorney Houston took occasion, during the course of his court argument before Federal Judge Martin, to mention the general position of Negro labor. He said that it is an axiom in America that the 'Negro is the last and first fired—and that Negroes have another expression which has been crystallized out of bitter experience, that "the Negro's work ends where the machine begins." He illustrated this last axiom by mentioning the displacement of Negro firemen on railroads by mechanical stokers.

The occasion of the legal bout in which Mr. Houston engaged was another phase of the court fight begun some time ago by C. O. Teague, well-known colored fireman here, who instituted action against the Gulf Mobile, and Northern Railroad Company relative to his seniority rights. The company had been advancing white firemen over Mr. Teague in disregard of the traditional practice of advancing men in pay and position according to the time they have been employed. Mr Teague's contention was that his seniority rights were being disregarded. Attorney Houston was retained to argue Teague's case, and incidently bring out the whole subject of the Negro's position today as a laborer on the country's railroads.

Mr. Houston's main objective in the Memphis trial was to keep the case under the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts, rather than have it transferred to state court where many assume Mr. Teague's chances for a settlement in his favor will be less. It appeared the conclusion of argument that Houston had won his point. Judge Martin's decision had not been learned at this writing.

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He argued further, "Negroes are not opposed to labor, and wherever given a fair opportunity to form part of the labor movement have been as loyal, if not more loyal than the white workers"—but according to Attorney Houston 'Negroes have to eat, have to clothe and house their families, and if it means 'scabbing' as the alternative to starvation, the 'scabbing' it would have to be until white labor weakens to the fact that it cannot keep he Negro down in the ditch without staying in the ditch itself."

Referring particularly to colored railway men, the noted advocate observed, "We do not object to majority rule in the railroad industry, have no objection to the Brotherhood (Union) acting on behalf of all as long as it acts fairly, do not object to the Brotherhood representing Negro firemen, merely object to the Brotherhood misrepresenting them."

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One local colored attorney was associated with Mr. Houston in the case in the person of Attorney J. T. Settle, who assisted in some phase of the last heading.

NEGROES SECURE VARIETY OF JOBS IN USHA SET-UP

Washington Bulletin
Washington D.C.

Straus's Policy in Housing Authority Gives Wide Range

SEP 21 1940

Negro workers have been employed in more than 60 job categories in the field of public housing, according to a survey of employment opportunities in housing made by Dr. Frank S. Horne, acting special assistant to the administrator of the United States Housing Authority.

This variety of employment reflects the policy initiated by Nathan Straus, USHA administrator.

These jobs, created by the government's public housing program, range from professional and technical positions on the USHA staff to maintenance labor on projects developed by local housing authorities with the financial assistance of the USHA.

The list includes a variety of managerial and clerical work as well as skilled employment. In addition, Negro building trades workers have been employed in 18 crafts in the construction of USHA low-rent housing projects.

List Positions

Among positions in which colored persons have been employed by the USHA are the following: special assistant to the administrator in charge of racial relations, assistant adviser on racial relations, assistant for Negro labor relations, Negro press relations representative, associate attorney, junior attorney, architectural consultant, architectural engineer, junior architect, associate management

auditor, assistant management
supervisor, secretary-research assistant, regional relations
adviser, also various grades of
stenographers, typists, clerks and
messengers.

Positions to which Negroes have
been appointed by local housing
authorities include: assistant build-

of local housing authorities and the
selector, tenant two members of state housing
interviewer, staff boards are not paid officials, they
tuntant, various are members of local policy-mak-
phic and clerical bodies which initiate, develop,
h maintenance and manage public housing proj-
superintendent, ects.
painter, electri- In many instances these housing
laborers, oper- commissioners have been effective
general labor- in opening employment opportuni-
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"Although the 22 Negro members

LABOR- 1940
OCCUPATION, WAGES, ETC.

GENERAL

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REAL FIFTH COLUMNISTS

The American people, driven by the need for military security, must build a military establishment costly beyond all precedents. An increditable proportion of the national income must be taken from the pockets of the people and diverted to government. All of us will have fewer luxuries. All of us must conserve. All of us must sacrifice.

That is clear enough and reasonable enough. But it has become tragically plain that a very substantial portion of the American people have the idea that the other fellow should make most, if not all of the sacrifices. It's the other fellow's standard of living which should suffer, not their own. It's the other fellow who should pay the bill and do the work, while they go on much as they did before.

Certain influencial segments of labor, for instance, demand still higher pay, shorter hours, excessive extra pay for overtime, and other special privileges and prerogatives for the workman, despite the fact that pay is now the highest and the work-week the shortest in history. Their argument is that industry must sacrifice more of its profits in the interest of labor, while the worker grows fat off the national emergency.

A certain segment of industry follows a similar course. Even as it makes profits of an unusual size, it works to reduce the share that goes to labor, and it works to get more bounty for itself out of government in one way or another. It too believes in sacrifice—so long as the other fellow does it.

Those who have gone on government relief as a career favor sacrifice, too—so long as it doesn't touch relief appropriations. The government, under the guise of "relief," still pays out millions for leaf-raking, boondoggling and other completely non-productive activities. Powerful influences demand that not one nickel of this waste be eliminated, no matter how much others sacrifice to pay it, or how dire the menace the country faces.

The professional politicians talk much of sacrifice, in noble words. But it is a rare politician who is willing to sacrifice one thin dime of patronage that might cost a vote, to support a principle. Money still goes out for farm relief schemes foredoomed to failure—for unnecessary tax-built and tax-subsidized government electric plants, for government credit schemes of all kinds, and for a thousand and one purposes which are in no way a true function of government, but which are prolific sources of votes and power. The self-seeking hand of politics handicaps a real defense program which would get maximum results with a minimum of waste of time and money.

Who is going to sacrifice what? That is the question that America faces today, if national security is to be a reality, not a mirage. The answer is plain. All must sacrifice, all must contribute their full share. The other fellow isn't going to do it for us. Selfish interests now at play in America, whether they be in labor, industry, or government, are the real fifth-columnists within our gates.—Ind. News Review.

'Sons of the South' Male Quintet

Left to right, standing—W. Charles Gordon, LeRoy Brown, Edward B. Scales. Sitting—Carl Braxton, Algie Houg, who will appear at St. James A.M.E., Sunday, Aug. 25; Mt. Airy, Aug. 29; Prince of Peace, Aug. 27; Wayman Temple, Aug. 28; Washington Tabernacle, Aug. 30.

Are They White Rabbits?

By Dorothy Thompson

Miss Thompson's Last Word

WASHINGTON, March 18, 1940
Congress of Industrial Organizations
The Editor, New York Herald Tribune, New York City.
Dear Sir:

1. I am reluctant to comment further on the unemployment figures of Miss Thompson's alter ego because I realize that she has the traditional last word and will use it. However, Miss Thompson, in her column printed in the New York Herald Tribune of March 18, has so badly reported my letter to her about the unemployment figures that I feel that the C. I. O. view requires some additional elucidation.

2. Since the time I wrote Miss Thompson, Ernest Lindley (in The Washington Post) has very ably pointed out the gross statistical flaws in which Miss Thompson indulged. Therefore it is not necessary to take the space to dissect the statistical white rabbits produced by Miss Thompson.

3. It is clear by now that Miss Thompson's attack on the standard unemployment estimates stems from a man by the name of E. E. Lincoln, who is an economist for the du Ponts. It so happens that, as Mr. C. F. Hughes, business news editor of The New York Times, pointed out in his column of March 17, the C. I. O. has no interest in enlarging the figures. We would be delighted to be able to report that unemployment had reached its minimum, but we will not misuse statistics the way Mr. Lincoln has done.

4. One should not blame that gentleman too much because he is, after all, in the employ of the du Ponts. Last year the du Pont enterprises made a profit of $93,218,644. Obviously the existence of widespread unemployment is no bar to their profits. Obviously it would be to the interest of the du Ponts under present circumstances to belittle the extent of unemployment and thus beguile the Congress and the legislatures to cut further their inadequate provisions for the unemployed. You see, the less money that is provided for the unemployed, the less taxes the du Ponts have to pay on their $93,218,644 profits.

5. It is sad, indeed, that Miss Thompson, with her wide audience trusting her not to represent any special interest, should be taken in by such obviously motivated calculations as those of Mr. Lincoln.

6. It is regrettable that Miss Thompson's constituency is one whose only option is to listen or not to listen. Her judgments might be more carefully weighed if she were responsible to American working men and women for whom unemployment is a daily bitter danger.

7. The fact is that on the basis of careful calculations we have made, arising almost wholly from official Government figures, unemployment in December, 1939, was 10,469,000; in January, 1940, it was 11,936,000; and in February the figures will be somewhat higher. These figures have been checked with numerous Government economists; they have been discussed with officials of private reporting agencies, and I feel sure that the census of 1940 will prove our estimate to be far less fantastic than that reported by Miss Thompson.

8. Of course, the last word on this whole question will not be written by Miss Thompson nor by me, but rests in those millions of homes where the cold hand of unemployment is crushing courage and hope out of American families. Sincerely yours,

RALPH HETZEL, JR.,
Director, Unemployment Division.

NEW YORK, March 23, 1940

My Dear Mr. Hetzel:

In the controversy which has arisen over the original article written in this column, you and others will have the last word for some time, for when this appears I shall have sailed for Europe, leaving the unemployment and employment statistics to the statisticians. I hope, however, that if this controversy continues it will be in a rather more scientific spirit than the one demonstrated in your letter.

With a repetitiveness that must have become boresome I must insist that the figures I presented were put forth for no other purpose than to ascertain whether repeated assertions are, in fact, true. My thesis is that the unemployment statistics are taken without a consistent standard, and that if the *employment* statistics of 1939 are measured against the *employment* statistics of 1929, they challenge the charge that from eight to ten times as many people are unemployed now as then.

It is entirely possible that my methodology in setting up the picture is erroneous. But your technique in answering me is one that has become all too common in public discussion and which has contributed to reduce public discussion to an all-time low. It is to cast doubts upon an opponent's motives, to attack his character, to conjecture about his affiliations, to destroy, if possible, confidence in his disinterestedness.

THE LOGIC of your reasoning interests me. In paragraph 4 you tell me what the profits of the du Pont enterprises were last year and seem to suggest that their profits rise in ratio to a state of economic crisis. This will interest all industrialists and all economists. You also tell me that it is in the interests of the du Ponts to belittle the extent of unemployment and thus beguile the Congress and the Legislatures to cut further appropriations for the unemployed because the less money appropriated for the unemployed, the less taxes the du Ponts will have to pay.

Might I remind you that not a cent has been paid to the unemployed out of taxes, but that all that has gone to them has gone by increasing the public debt? Also that the du Ponts have advocated balancing the budget, which would undoubtedly mean an increase and not a diminishing of taxation?

In paragraph 6, you make a most remarkable statement, namely, that my judgments might be more carefully weighed were I responsible to American working men and women. I confess that I do not understand what you mean. Do you suggest, perhaps, that working men and women should decide what is or is not printed in the press? And that they should decide it, perhaps, through the C. I. O. and its leaders? Should journalists be elected, perhaps, by the "workers" and forced to render opinions according to the statisticians of the "workers?" And are the statisticians of the "workers" responsible to them? Are you, Mr. Hetzel, responsible to the "workers?"

I am interested in the question because I am one of the "workers" whose dues to the Newspaper Guild and therefore to the C. I. O. help support you. But I should regret to see the powers of the C. I. O. extended to the point where you, whom we help to hire, decide what we should or should not write. Nor would I regard this as a contribution to democracy.

And I am afraid that I believe that a journalist, before being responsible to the "workers," should be responsible to himself or herself, and to the truth in so far as it is possible to find it, in a world where assertions such as yours can rashly be made and publicized without their having the slightest foundation in truth or the slightest relation to the facts.

For your whole argument rests upon the thesis, which you advance as a categorical statement of fact: "It is clear . . . that Miss Thompson's estimates stem from a man by the name of E. E. Lincoln, who is an economist for the du Ponts."

MR. HETZEL, even if a man were an economist for the devil, facts would still have to be considered as facts. Mathematics is not class-conscious.

But, as it happens, I never heard of Mr. E. E. Lincoln until you mentioned his name. The only association that the name "Lincoln" has in my mind is with a man whose Christian name was Abraham, and if he had anything to do with the du Ponts that is news to me. I have never seen any statistics issued by the du Ponts, or any analysis of statistics from that industry. I have never been approached by any corporation with the request to use or print any material. In fact, the corporations either are indifferent to this columnist or have a higher opinion of her incorruptibility than has the trade union movement to which she, as a worker, belongs. The statistics used in my columns are available to all who possess the reports of the National Industrial Conference Board, of the A. F. of L., the Statistical Abstract of the United States and the May, 1938, publication of the National Resources Committee.

The statement that you make in an open letter to the Herald Tribune has found its way to other publications, with a view to presenting me not as an independent journalist, but as the mouthpiece of some great corporation or other. As a worker I admit some resentment of this charge, carelessly spread around by someone who purports to be a representative of "workers." I do not expect to be supported by the du Ponts, but I do expect not to be accused without investigation by the trade-union movement with which I happen to be affiliated, and with which on occasion I reserve the right to differ. Or is there a "party line" and "blind obedience?"

DOROTHY THOMPSON.

Red Caps Ask For Millions Back Pay

CINCINNATI.—(ANP)—That dime you tipped a "red cap" is legally a gratuity. The nation's nearly 10,000 railroad and station porters may demand back wages of astronomical magnitude.

The wage and hour division of the labor department contends tips are not wages in the meaning of the Fair Labor Standards act. This will be determined in the division's pending federal injunction actions.

A wage-hour spokesman estimated today 10,000 redcaps could sue as of this date for $9,600,000 in back wages and another $9,600,000 in liquidating damages if they are given legal status as railroad or terminal employees.

The Cincinnati Union Terminal company said in its answer to a wage-hour injunction suit the "red caps are licensees." The spokesman added that in many smaller stations red caps are hired for janitor work and paid a monthly wage in excess of the minimum hourly requirement—25c an hour from October 24, 1938, to October 24, 1939, and 30 cents an hour thereafter.

Red caps in Chicago, Cincinnati, Philadelphia, Boston and Memphis have brought suits for back wages.

Claims were filed against the Boston Terminal company for $60,000 back wages on behalf of 75 members of the International Brotherhood of Redcaps. The porters assert they were forced to sign reports that their daily tips totaled the current $2.40 minimum wage.

The wage-hour division Thursday filed its second complaint involving redcaps asking an injunction against the Cleveland Union Terminals company. It charged the corporation failed to pay 65 porters minimum wages totaling an estimated $66,000. The similar Cincinnati Terminal action was filed Nov. 6.

The Cleveland complaint also said the company coerced redcaps to report falsely that daily tips averaged 30 cents an hour.

The Cincinnati Terminal inaugurated Feb. 1 a plan under which red caps are carried on the pay roll at 30 cents an hour. The traveler pays his redcap 10 cents for each parcel carried. The porter turns these receipts over to the company.

Count of the Unemployed

Estimates of unemployed in the United States long have ranged from eight to above ten million, without serious challenge. Within the past few weeks private statisticians have set the present total much lower. The low figure is two million, as compared with a high approximating twelve million. Obviously somebody has miscounted or guessed wrong by an inexcusable margin. And though the American majority probably strings along with the national industrial conference board estimate of nine million, the much smaller figures and the coin of plausibility in their supporting arguments have set a good many folks to wondering if, after all, our national unemployment figures somehow have undergone gross exaggeration.

Now comes the census bureau with the announcement that its own count of unemployed may be published complete before the November election. This enumeration will be made in connection with the decennial census labors soon to begin. The enumerators will count both the employed and the unemployed. Whether they will attempt to classify the unemployables, we do not know. It is in the fields of classification that the unemployment estimates commonly disagree and sometimes go haywire entirely. The census returns themselves may be disputed if they go in for classifications—but will be discounted as of little value if they don't.

In any case the nationwide count under government auspices and direction will give the nation some basic facts concerning unemployment, and the virtual promise that its unemployment data will be published next summer should be widely welcomed for that reason. In olden time the leisurely compilation and release of census reports and statistics was by way of being a standing joke. Sometimes important sections were delayed so long that they were ancient and not very valuable history on the day of their publication. Celeritous compilation and release of the census unemployment data would be a highly useful service that might even win thanks and praise from hardened critics of the census bureau and its past delays.

Inadequate Work Relief

Do the Democrats propose to furnish work-relief in a national program for virtually all American citizens certified to be in need of it? Or do they propose to continue, as now, affording such relief only to some of these citizens? These are questions that soon will have to be answered, Ernest Lindley writes.

Mr. Lindley says there are now 1,000,000 workers certified as in need of public jobs who have not been given them. These are distinct from the so-called "unemployables."

This situation exists this fiscal year under an appropriation almost 50 per cent larger than the $1,000,000,000 appropriation under consideration for next year.

There are now, Mr. Lindley reports, at least 3,300,000 workers either on WPA jobs or eligible for them. A $1,000,000,000 appropriation for next year would provide only 1,350,000 jobs.

* * *

The Republicans are talking a great deal about turning the relief problem back to the states, with grants-in-aid from the federal government. This plan, Mr. Lindley believes, would result in most states in the substitution of the dole for work relief. Possibly Mr. Lindley is unduly pessimistic in that forecast, but it would seem certain that 48 different programs in 48 different states would be a long time achieving anything like the constructive results obtained by a national program, faulty as that still is.

We agree, as must almost everybody, that the highest feasible degree of local participation in the work-relief program is desirable. It seems to us that the present national program has itself tended to move rather steadily in that direction, insofar, at least, as initiation of projects is concerned. Doubtless there can be a considerable further degree of local participation in the program.

But inasmuch as the whole program necessarily will be dependent on federal aid, which in turn will call for the imposition of certain federal standards, we think that work-relief will continue to be, not either a strictly national or a strictly local problem, but a joint problem of both state and federal governments that will have to be worked out jointly.

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For the time being, the federal government is still bearing the main responsibility for the work-relief program, as differentiated from relief for unemployables. This national program is inadequate. Consideration is being given to action that threatens to make it even more inadequate.

Both Democrats and Republicans had better get down to working out something more definite than now is offered, if they expect to meet the needs of the country and of the unemployed.

WAGE-HOUR AMENDMENTS

There is a battle on in Congress between the supporters of moderate and the champions of "drastic" changes in the Federal Wage-Hour Act, but the sad truth is that both sets of amendments are badly thought out, and that neither makes the changes that are really necessary. The most important needed amendment is the removal of the mandatory blanket minimum hourly wages and particularly of the mandatory blanket "maximum hour" provisions (which are really merely disguised, though ambiguous, minimum wage provisions) now written into the act. Though half of the states already had minimum wage laws when the Federal act was passed, the overwhelming majority of those laws, and certainly all the well-considered ones, did not attempt to write minimum wages into the act itself. Instead, they set up machinery—and in this respect the Federal Wage-Hour Act partly follows them—by which minimum wages were fixed for each "sick" industry only after special investigation of that industry by a committee containing representatives of the employers, the workers and the general public.

If this single change were made, none of the elaborate set of special exemptions proposed by the Barden bill, for example, would be necessary. The framers of the Barden bill begin by accepting uncritically a very unwise set of blanket provisions; they recognize the havoc that those provisions are causing in special instances—in certain agricultural processes, in Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands generally, and in the foolish and dangerous control even of the wages and hours of workers who are already very highly paid—and then they propose to make special exceptions in these instances. But such special exemptions tend to be unjustifiably discriminatory even at best, and are usually, in fact, inspired by political rather than by economic considerations. Thus, for example, even assuming that all the Barden amendments should become law, we should find that under them certain industries would not be called upon to pay minimum wages of even 30 cents an hour, though other industries already paying as high as 85 cents an hour might be obliged to jump to $1.27½ cents for every weekly hour over forty. If, on the other hand, the blanket mandatory wage and hour provisions were merely taken out of the existing act, then none of the special exemptions proposed by the Barden bill would be necessary. Each industry and special situation could be flexibly dealt with on its own merits.

There may then, let us hope, be a fair prospect of really well-considered amendments in the next Congress.

Red Caps Ask For Millions Back Pay

CINCINNATI.—(ANP)—That dime you tipped a "red cap" is legally a gratuity. The nation's nearly 10,000 railroad and station porters may demand back wages of astronomical magnitude.

The wage and hour division of the labor department contends tips are not wages in the meaning of the Fair Labor Standards act. This will be determined in the division's pending federal injunction actions.

A wage-hour spokesman estimated today 10,000 redcaps could sue as of this date for $9,600,000 in back wages and another $9,600,000 in liquidating damages if they are given legal status as railroad or terminal employees.

The Cincinnati Union Terminal company said in its answer to a wage-hour injunction suit the "red caps are licensees." The spokesman added that in many smaller stations red caps are hired for janitor work and paid a monthly wage in excess of the minimum hourly requirement—25c an hour from October 24, 1938, to October 24, 1939, and 30 cents an hour thereafter.

Red caps in Chicago, Cincinnati, Philadelphia, Boston and Memphis have brought suits for back wages.

Claims were filed against the Boston Terminal company for $60,000 back wages on behalf of 75 members of the International Brotherhood of Redcaps. The porters assert they were forced to sign reports that their daily tips totaled the current $2.40 minimum wage.

The wage-hour division Thursday filed its second complaint involving redcaps asking an injunction against the Cleveland Union Terminals company. It charged the corporation failed to pay 65 porters minimum wages totaling an estimated $66,000. The similar Cincinnati Terminal action was filed Nov. 6.

The Cleveland complaint also said the company coerced redcaps to report falsely that daily tips averaged 30 cents an hour.

The Cincinnati Terminal inaugurated Feb. 1 a plan under which red caps are carried on the payroll at 30 cents an hour. The traveler pays his redcap 10 cents for each parcel carried. The porter turns these receipts over to the company.

Count of the Unemployed

Estimates of unemployed in the United States long have ranged from eight to above ten million, without serious challenge. Within the past few weeks private statisticians have set the present total much lower. The low figure is two million, as compared with a high approximating twelve million. Obviously somebody has miscounted or guessed wrong by an inexcusable margin. And though the American majority probably strings along with the national industrial conference board estimate of nine million, the much smaller figures and the color of plausibility in their supporting arguments have set a good many folks to wondering if, after all, our national unemployment figures somehow have undergone gross exaggeration.

Now comes the census bureau with the announcement that its own count of unemployed may be published complete before the November election. This enumeration will be made in connection with the decennial census labors soon to begin. The enumerators will count both the employed and the unemployed. Whether they will attempt to classify the unemployables, we do not know. It is in the fields of classification that the unemployment estimates commonly disagree and sometimes go haywire entirely. The census returns themselves may be disputed if they go in for classifications—but will be discounted as of little value if they don't.

In any case the nationwide count under government auspices and direction will give the nation some basic facts concerning unemployment, and the virtual promise that its unemployment data will be published next summer should be widely welcomed for that reason. In olden time the leisurely compilation and release of census reports and statistics was by way of being a standing joke. Sometimes important sections were delayed so long that they were ancient and not very valuable history on the day of their publication. Celeritous compilation and release of the census unemployment data would be a highly useful service that might even win thanks and praise from hardened critics of the census bureau and its past delays.

Inadequate Work Relief

Do the Democrats propose to furnish work-relief in a national program for virtually all American citizens certified to be in need of it? Or do they propose to continue, as now, affording such relief only to some of these citizens? These are questions that soon will have to be answered, Ernest Lindley writes.

Mr. Lindley says there are now 1,000,000 workers certified as in need of public jobs who have not been given them. These are distinct from the so-called "unemployables."

This situation exists this fiscal year under an appropriation almost 50 per cent larger than the $1,000,000,000 appropriation under consideration for next year.

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Perhaps, on the whole, the happiest outcome to be hoped for in the present instance is that the extreme Barden amendments will be passed by the House but will fail of final enactment at this session. In that case the House will have registered a much-needed protest against the present badly conceived Wage and Hour Law, but we will be saved from almost equally bad

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OCCUPATION, WAGES, ETC.

GENERAL

WIDESPREAD BENEFITS MADE BY NEGROES FROM WPA IN '39

WASHINGTON, D. C.—"Judging from the widespread benefits derived by Negroes as well as other people, the money spent on the employment program of the Work Projects Administration was the nation's best investment during 1939," Alfred Edgar Smith, staff advisor at Federal WPA headquarters here, said during an interview this week.

"The most important benefit, of course, was the employment to needy workers," Mr. Smith said. "During the past year an average of 300,000 Negro workers were employed on WPA projects and it is estimated that they received some $15,000,000 in monthly wages. More than a million Negroes, including dependent members of these workers' families, owen their livlihood directly to the WPA.

"Besides 'receiving WPA wages workers in some localities were able to obtain decent housing at low cost in Government-built houses; and in many more localities their wages were supplemented by the distribution of surplus clothing and food.

"Certain features of the WPA program stood out above others. Many Negro women who were wage earners for their families found in WPA employment their first opportunity to work as something other than domestic and personal servants or as laborers in the cotton fields. WPA adult education classes furnished many grown Negroes with their first opportunity to attend any kind of school juvenile delinquency decreased among colored children as WPA workers carried supervised and instructive recreation into underprivileged areas. Illiteracy decreased so much, as a result of WPA classes in reading and writing, that it was considered no longer necessary to include a question on this subject in the 1940 Census.

"After reviewing the need of its workers in February, 1939," Mr. Smith said, "the WPA certified 387,138 Negroes for continued employment. These men and women comprised 14 percent of the total number of WPA workers. Despite some concentration in big cities of the North, the largest representation of Negro workers was, as might be expected, in the Southeastern States. Negroes comprised 39 per cent of all WPA workers in both South Carolina and Louisiana and 37 per cent in Georgia. Surprising, the proportion of Negro WPA workers in the District of Columbia was 67 per cent. In Illinois it was 20 per cent and in New York and Kansas, only 14 per cent; but in New England, most of the Great Plains States, and the Northwest, the averages were under 5 per cent.

"These Negro workers did work of all kinds. In the WPA's art projects, they found a rare opportunity to show their talents as artists, sculptors, writers, actors and scenery designers. As musicians they composed music and played in orchestras. They sang in choral groups over the radio, at the World's Fair, and before the King and Queen of England. They taught classes of all sorts, and they played an important part as leaders in organized recreation. As doctors, dentists, pharmacists and nurses, they helped local heath agencies to extend their services among the underprivileged and to spread health education. White-collar workers were employed as clerks, stenographers, typists, statisticians, operators of calculating machines, draftsmen, and map makers. Among Negro skilled workers were mechanics, electricians, pipe fitters and layers, steel and sheet metal workers, blacksmiths, tractor and truck operators, air hammer and compressor operators, carpenters, painters, masons, bricklayers, plasterers, cement workers, saw filers, gardeners, tree surgeons and firemen.

"Negro workers found many opportunities for vocational training on WPA projects, as well as at adult education classes in such subjects as radio, woodwork, metal work and music. Young white-collar workers learned to make maps and to operate many kinds of computing machines. Negro women learned to sew, to make household necessities from scrap materials, and were trained as domestic workers on household-training projects.

"The administrative staffs of the Federal, State and District WPA offices employed Negro personnel. Nearly 100 Negroes were employed in various capacities at WPA headquarters in Washington, D. C.; and state administrations made use of Negro workers as race relations officers and in other specialized roles. District offices employed Negro social workers, labor coordinators, educational and recreational supervisors, etc.

"Negroes as well as other people benefitted by the public facilities built or improved by WPA workers," Mr. Smith pointed out. "New public libraries were erected, and old ones reconditioned. State colleges for colored students in the South enlarged their plants and acquired new buildings, athletic fields, stadiums and power plants.

"Negro workers helped improve streets, walks and sewers. Public school buildings, gymnasiums and auditoriums were constructed and renovated, and rural "cabin" schools were replaced with modern buildings. Outstanding examples of WPA-built buildings for Negro use are: The $100,000 high school at Pine Bluff, Arkansas; the $12,000 civic center at Goldsboro, N. C., and the $100,000 memorial hospital at Tampa, Fla.

"WPA-provided services also were available to Negro and other citizens alike. There were educational classes for adults as well as nursery schools for small children; and there were community art centers, where instruction was given in painting, sewing and weaving. There were health clinics, where free dental and medical care could be had, and free venereal clinics that specialized in health education. Visiting nurses and housekeeping helpers were available for those who needed them. Many Negroes in swampy regions found freedom from malaria for the first time as a result of WPA swamp-drainage projects. Free hot lunches were served to needy school children. There were books written by Negroes on writers' projects and there was entertainment provided by instrumental and choral groups from music projects. The findings of WPA research work ers were made available to the public, covering such subjects a rural and urban workers, migration, youth problems, private employment and industrial change.

"Members of the Negro race benefitted particularly from services not previously available to them in many communities. Negro mothers were able to seek and hold employment, while their small children were kept safe in child-care centers. WPA traveling libraries brought a book lending service to communities where Negroes were barred from public libraries or where library buildings were inaccessible. Art became something tangible and real at new WPA art galleries in such centers as Jacksonville, Memphis, Raleigh, Oklahoma City and New York. Negroes saw stage productions free, or at a price they could afford, through the Federal Theatre. Directories of Negro churches and catalogues of Negro collections in libraries were made available.

"The rights of Negro WPA workers were fully protected in 1939," Mrs. Smith said. "Negro workers who complained of discrimination practiced against them on WPA projects had their complaints investigated promptly and necessary adjustments made. In many instances the complaining workers were sustained and received assignments, reclassifications, or reinstatements of their WPA jobs. A large percentage of the complaints, however, were based on misconceptions of WPA regulations and were adjusted after proper explanation. In this connection, it should be borne in mind that Congress has specifically forbidden any discrimination because of race in WPA employment.

"Negro workers furloughed from WPA rolls because of eighteen months' continuous employment, as well as those forced off the rolls because of quota reductions, made every effort to secure employment in private industry during 1939," Mr. Smith concluded. "Investigation has shown that they experienced great difficulty in finding steady work at an adequate wage, but when they were so fortunate as to find it they proved excellent workers. The training and work experience gained on WPA projects stood them in good stead. Negro workers, both on and off the WPA rolls, look forward hopefully to a continuation of business recovery in 1940. Meanwhile, those for whom private industry has as yet no place are compiling an enviable record on WPA projects and are taking advantage of every training opportunity."

Urge Race To Seek Statistical Posts

NEW YORK, March 22—Announcement of a Federal Civil Service examination for the position of chief of the research and statistical service of the Office of Education is being called to the attention of qualified persons this week.

The position carries a salary of $5,600 a year. Applicants must have successfully completed a four-year college course, carrying at least 20 semester hours in the field of education. They must also have completed three full years of graduate study, leading to the degree of doctor of philosophy in education and at least four years of professional research in the field of education or of college teaching in this field.

Application blanks may be secured by requesting Announcement No. 20 from the U. S. Civil Service Commission, Washington, D. C. They must be on file before March 25.

New Drive Is Under Way To Revamp Wage-Hour Law

But Whatever Happens, Proposed Changes Face Delay Of Several Weeks In House

BY W. B. RAGSDALE

WASHINGTON—(AP)—A new push for legislation to revise the wage-hour law is on in the House. Whatever happens later in the session, the changes won't hit the floor for several weeks.

There are two reasons for delay. The House labor committee is just beginning serious work toward revamping the labor board. House leaders do not want anything to interfere right now. Secondly, there are four more appropriation bills to be debated. If the totals can be held down, Congress will have accomplished its objective of staving off new taxes for this session.

The wage-hour problem is no simple one. There are at least 49 bills pending to exempt one or another kind of labor from the federal wage-hour standards. At least one proposal seeks to repeal the whole act.

Any bill brought to the floor to amend the original act throws the whole subject open to all kinds of changes unless it is guarded by a "gag" rule. Whatever may have been past practices in the House, Democratic Leader Rayburn has personally opposed "gag" rules as a matter of principle.

A few samples of the exemptions from wage-hour standards which are being sought are for various types of agricultural, clerical, lumber, telephone and small newspaper employes, workers for various poultry and agricultural cooperatives, handlers and processors of perishable farm and lumber products, hand cigar makers and placer miners.

By the time the advocates of all these changes get through firing at the law, its supporters are somewhat fearful of the shape it will be in.

* * *

CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS have no fear that President Roosevelt will fail to sign the farm appropriation bill. Nor do they figure increases beyond budget estimates will make it necessary either to raise the federal debt limit or bring in a tax bill at this session of Congress. They are making no plans to do either.

Here is why: The Agriculture Department already has the money to make this year's "parity" payments. Most of the increases are for money to be spent next year, after a new Congress has been elected.

The 1941 Congress will worry about where the money is coming from to pay the bills contracted by this one—or whether the debt limit shall be raised.

* * *

THE NEW HATCH BILL produced some queer alignments in the Senate. Senator Barkley, of Kentucky, the Democratic leader, found more of his followers were Republicans than were Democrats.

Senator Mindon, of Indiana, the Democratic whip who usually works with Barkley in helping to round up votes for administration legislation, fought Barkley on this measure and helped lead the opposition.

Before the bill went to a final vote, Minton met Senator Chandler, of Kentucky, a Democratic newcomer, in the ante-room of the Senate.

"What are you doing, voting with the Republicans on this Hatch bill?" asked Minton.

"I'm not following the Republicans," Chandler replied. "I'm just following my leader like you told me to."

RELIEF IS NO REMEDY FOR UNEMPLOYMENT

The New Deal after seven years of experimentation and regimentation, has not learned that relief and wasteful spending of the tax payers' money, is no remedy for unemployment or the revival of business. Relief is charity, cold blooded charity, and does not permanently settle or stabalize labor nor business. It only covers up sore spots in our social order and gives the needy and unemployed temporary jobs, like the beautiful snow hides the holes and rough spots on the mountain sides. When the sunshine melts the snow away you find the same holes and rough spots on the mountain sides; and when relief fails because the tax payers can no longer carry the load want, poverty and unemployment will still have the people in their grasp, or in other words they will be exactly where they were before relief came; for the reason, that relief has been issued so sparingly, that those receiving it could not save a dollar, buy a home or provide for a rainy day. So those who have been on relief, and put off because the Government could no longer carry them, and being without work, nothing is left to them except to drift into crime, and crime does not pay.

The only remedy for the unemployed, is a job with a living wage for every man who is willing to work and gave an honest day's work for an honest dollar. Relief never has cured depression and never will; instead of curing it, it lengthens the life of depression. Stabilization in business, work for the unemployed at a living wage is the remedy, and the present administration at Washingon has had seven years to bring about these conditions; it has failed and the people ought to put it out of business at the first opportunity and give another administration an opportunity to try its hand at relieving the people. The only way to stabilize business, and to encourage industry, is to put capital and labor to work. Employment cannot be increased unless capital invests and creates more jobs. Capital is not going to invest or expand business unless it has confidence in the government. Capital must have security, and the security it desires, is confidence in the government, to the end that the government will give it a square deal and not compete with it in business. The government must make such laws and provide such regulations for capital and labor to work together, on friendly terms and not antagonizing legislation will make enemies of these two factors, which must cooperate together if either lives for the good of both. Labor is entitled to a living wage, and what we mean by a living wage, is wages enough to have a home, educate the children and save a dollar for a rainy day. Capital is entitled to reasonable return on its investment, and the personal right to control its business without unnecessary interference by politicians who have no business and do not know how to run other people's business.

It is confidence in the ability of the U.S.A. to redeem its obligations in gold that make the world buy its bonds and securities. Depressions grow out of a lack of confidence and the fear that government will unnecessarily interfere with the personal rights of the individuals. What the people want and need at Washington, is an American administration that will do business in the American way. The people are entitled to such an administration, and it is in their power to choose such an administration. If they do not do it in November they will have nobody to blame but themselves. Give capital a chance and stop regementing private business, and capital will expand and give the unemployed work to do, and labor a living wage and depression will quit the country over night and the people will be free once more to regulate and control their own business without the interference of New Deal politicians who have not demonstrated in their lives the ability to have any business of their own, because they have been engaged in destroying other people's business. Give the farmer a market to sell his produce in at a profit above the cost of production, and every line of business in this country will prosper, because the farmer furnishes a living wage for us all. When he is prosperous, the merchant is prosperous, the lawyer, the doctor, the railroad, the church and everybody has a plenty to eat and good clothes to wear.

Greensboro N. C. News March 28, 1940

NEGRO'S JOB FUTURE SUBJECT OF SCHUYLER

Pittsburgh Courier Writer to Lecture At A. and T. College At 8 Tonight.

George S. Schuyler, negro economist and writer, will speak at 8 o'clock tonight at A. and T. college on "The Negro Job Future", the lecture to be in conjunction with the celebration of the eighth annual Negro Vocational Opportunity campaign.

Throughout the campaign, which opened Tuesday, various programs have centered around vocational guidance for negro youth. Esther P. Hicks, instructor in the business department of the college, spoke yesterday morning on "Vocational Guidance: Past, Present and Future". The local campaign is being sponsored by Dr. Charles L. Cooper, professor of industrial education at the college, and others.

Tonight's speaker is said to be one of the most aggressive of young negro leaders. A native of Providence, R. I., he was educated in the public schools of Syracuse, N. Y. After serving as first lieutenant in the World war, he went to New York where he became associated with The Messenger, one of the magazines of the early 1029's. He assumed its editorship in 1926.

Later he became interested in the co-operative movement and at present is considered the leading negro advocate of consumer co-operation as the means of alleviating low negro economic standards.

Since 1928, Schuyler has been on the editorial staff of the Pittsburgh Courier. He also has done reportorial work and special assignments for New York Evening Post. He is the author of two novels, "Black No More" and "Slaves Today".

Writers Urged To Seek Newspaper And Radio Jobs

NEW YORK, April 19—Newspaper men, magazine writers, publicity experts, and radio script authors are being urged by the National Urban League, through its department of industrial relations, to file applications for five examinations to be held in the near future by the federal Civil Service Commission. These examinations are for the following positions:

Principal information specialist, $5,600 per year; senior information specialist, $4,600 per year; information specialist, $3,800 per year; associate information specialist, $3,200 per year, and assistant information specialist, $2,600 per year.

Application blanks for any of these positions may be obtained from the United States Civil Service Commission, Washington, D. C. They must be on file before May 6. Written examinations will be given for all of these positions except that of principal information specialist. Candidates for this job will be rated on the basis of their education and experience.

WPA Report Reveals Vast Negro Jobless

By Charles Alexander for CNA

More than a million Negroes, including dependent members of their families, owed their liveliheed to the WPA during the past year, a report made public by the Federal Works Agency disclosed, last week.

The survey, prepared by Alfred Edgar Smith, Negro adviser at WPA headquarters, revealed that Negroes comprised 39 per cent of all WPA workers in South Carolina and Louisiana, 37 per cent in Georgia, 67 per cent in the District of Columbia and 14 per cent in New York and Kansas. Similar percentages apply to other areas with large Negro concentrations.

Observers believed that while the figures may not cover the entire extent of joblessness among Negroes, they sufficiently indicate the seriousness of the general situation.

Professionals Get, Aid, Too

Although unskilled laborers comprised the bulk of the race's jobless, the report showed that a large number of professionals, including "doctors, dentists, pharmacists, writers, musicians, teachers and artists" were forced to apply to the work-relief agency for help.

Unsuitable school houses in southern states, lack of recreational facilities as well as numerous malaria-breeding centers were some of the conditions WPA found in Negro communities, and which it helped to correct.

Negro WPA workers fired because of the Woodrum law or for quota reductions were found to be undergoing severe hardships. The report declared that although they "made every effort to secure employment in private industry, investigation has shown that they experienced great difficulty in finding steady work at an adequate wage."

500,000 Face Job Axe

Meanwhile, stirred by an announced additional 500,000 WPA layoff soon, as well as the huge slash proposed in the President's budget, the C.I.O., the Workers Alliance and the Trade Union Committee to Put America Back to Work have called for "broad actions" of the jobless "to resist every attempt to take away the gains won in the past few years."

Asserting that current reductions in WPA and those planned for the future are out of line with the needs of the unemployed, a spokesman for the C.I.O. said his organization believes that "spending for relief is more desirable than spending for national defense." He added that the C.I.O. will insist upon at least 3,000,000 WPA jobs for the unemployed.

Unemployment, Taxes Hamper The American Way of Life

Consumer-Tax Burdens and Mounting Public Debt Promote District, Distress, Poverty

By EMMETT J. SCOTT

We hear a great deal of talk nowadays about the American way of life. Unhappily, however, there is no basic agreement among the disputants as to what really constitutes the American way of life. Much of the discussion is purely poltical in character, and, generally, is designed to propagandize in behalf of whatever political program the disputant may be, for the moment, supporting.

Such discussions get nowhere because they lead nowhere. Instead one is plunged in winding passages of incoherance, errant demagoguery and not much of what may be called sober thinking.

It might be well, as we start the New Year, to hark back over the years since constitutional government was established in America, and inform ourselves anew as to what the original architects of our plan of government had in mind.

An Economy of Free Life

It probably will not be denied that, first of all, they planned an economy of free life—the formal declarations of our Charter of Liberty, and the Bill of Rights make this altogether plain.

There stood out most militantly in these declarations certain guarantees which assure individual initiative, the right to earn one's own living, a free press, the freedom of religious worship, and the individual right of freedom of expression. Inseparably related to these is the guarantee of security of life, and the opportunity to realize one's hopes and aspirations through progressive general intelligence and industry, without regard to whatever lowly beginnings he may have.

Democracy Being Hampered

Are these assured blessings of our American democracy being realized as we begin the 1940 year of our Lord?

Have industrialization, and regulatory, governmental interferences prevented the opportunity to improve one's condition and position in life?

Are rampant poverty and lack of opportunity due to conditions beyond our ability to overcome?

What factor in our present day way of life is lowering the American standard of living, and promoting distrust, distress, misery and want?

These questions need to be answered if our house is to be set aright. Alibis, explanations, excuses have been offered. But depressed conditions continue more or less unabated, the problem presented remain unsolved.

Present Day Conditions

With nearly 10,000,000 employable men and women unemployed; with mounting, staggering taxes being exacted on a war-period basis; with relief rolls maintaining parity numbers year by year; with a Government debt at an all-time high and threatening the Congressional limitation of $45,000,000,000; with the seeds of class consciousness being planted; with governmental bureaucracies regimenting labor, industry and many of the everyday affairs of men; with indirect taxes exacting tribute from the already discouraged and underprivileged poor, and from every household—with all progressive government which will realistically solve these problems, and restore to the people confidence, ambition and a just pride in the administration of their affairs.

It is all too patent that the New Deal cannot change its spots any more than a leopard can change his. Nearly seven years have been spent in trying out experiments, various and sundry, and the end is not yet.

The lower-income-bracket groups have been hardest hit in all this confusion of New Dealism. It is they who constitute the largest consumer-group in the United States.

Burden of Consumer Taxes

So heavy have become the burden of consumer-taxes being laid on them that, as Congress reassembles, widespread protest is being registered in oppostion to the imposition of increased "invisible," that is, indirect taxes.

Taking note of this oppostion, Mr. Morgentheau, Secretary of the Treasury, a few days ago, in an Inter-Departmental Conferenec of ranking Government officials, firmly opposed suggestions that further taxes of this character be imposed on the people.

At this press conference later, Secretary Morgentheau said the tax on consumers is "something over 60 per cent, now, and when it is over 60 per cent, it is high enough." He was understood to have meant, the New York Times reports, that more than 60 per cent of Federal revenues are derived from those forms of taxation which, in effect, are a tax on consumption.

These lower-in-come-bracket groups have not heretofore recognized they are paying such heavy consumer-taxes as 60 per cent, and more out of their scanty earnings for the right to live.

It is they who need to be freed from further encroachments upon their liberties. It is they who most need the restoration of men of experience and wisdom to power in government. It is they who need a higher level of production and employment and the removal of every barrier which now prevents the realization of that need.

It is they who most of all should fervently prav that the era of waste and extravagance, and the attendant evils which have harassed and discouraged them, may soon be a thing of bitter memory, instead of a continuing agency to menace, as it already has all-but-destroyed, the American way of life as envisioned by the fathers of the Republic.

CONFLICT CHARGED IN WAGE-HOUR LAW

WASHINGTON, March 25.—(AP) The National Small Businessmen's Association told Secretary Perkins today that it was receiving an increasing number of complaints that "farcical and conflicting applications of the wage-hour law in different sections" was increasing production costs and thus decreasing jobs.

Greensboro, N. C., News
March 29, 1940

SCHUYLER DISCUSSES NEGRO JOB PROBLEM

A. and T. Lecturer Advocates Consumer Co-operatives.

"Negro youth can do nothing to solve their job problem alone," George S. Schuyler, negro economist and writer, told faculty and students of A. and T. college gathered last night in the school auditorium for celebration of the eighth annual Negro Vocational Opportunity campaign.

"The unemployment problem is a worldwide problem, the solution of which will depend on a worldwide solution," he said, pointing out that the situation may be improved by change in government towards a planned economy through first group control to centralize government control.

Long a leader in consumer cooperatives as a means of alleviating the low negro economic standard, Schuyler stated the negro must control his consumption power in order to increase his job opportunities.

27 CCC Camps To Be Closed; Lack Of Funds

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(ANP)—Twenty-seven CCC camps for Negroes will be closed because of the lack of appropriations to continue them, in the general reduction of these camps throughout the country, according to an official closely identified with the government, who further says that this represents one-tenth of the total camps in the country to be discontinued.

Two hundred and seventy-three camps throughout the United States are to be closed down in the general retrenchment program. Of the Negro camps to be closed, it is highly doubtful whether any state or cops area will lose more than one camp due to the fact that all-Negro camps are now operated in 27 states.

However, the determinging factor in closing the camps is guided by the nearness to completion of projects in which the camp is interested.

27 WILL LOSE JOBS

At the same time, this will mean a loss of 27 jobs by Negroes as educational advisors, which pay $2,000 per annum, approximately 100 cooks and 150 boys known as rated men whose pay is from $36 to $45 per month.

Some $80,000 to $100,000 per month sent home by boys who would nominally be in the 27 camps to be discontinued, will be kept from needy families and over 2,700 boys wil be thrown out of the camps where they have been kept in an attempt to rehabilitate and train them for useful lives.

When the whole program goes into effect, it is expected that strong protests will be registered from all quarters, especially those sections which have profited by the proximity of the camps.

COMMUNITIES TO LOSE

Aside from the actual men in the camp, communities which have served these camps and been the recipients of many favors from the inhabitants will naturally lose in the general shuffling of sites, and they too are expected to join in the general protest which is expected to rise when the actual identity of the camps to be discontinued is revealed.

No definite steps to this dissolution have as yet been taken, but it is conceded that 27 will be abandoned and their inmates returned home.

A Blow To Youth

THE contemplated discontinuance of two hundred and seventy CCC camps, when and if it is carried out, will be a great blow to the youth of this nation who have been so immeasurably benefitted by the program carried out by these camps. Especially will this blow fall heavily upon the Negro youth who will be turned out of one-tenth of the total number to be discontinued, or about twenty-seven camps; for CCC training has been one of the greatest forces for character building among Negro youth that they have yet experienced. Not only has it been remumerative but the program has served to direct the youthful minds into channels of thoughtful preparation for the future, and saved them from an idleness that would have contributed nothing toward their development into useful manhood.

It is most regrettable that this great and useful work for the youth of this nation must be thus curtailed. It seems to us a near-calamity, in view of the possible untoward results following in the wake of such a move, not only to the youths themselves, but to the communities to which they will be returned as individuals with nothing to do but idle away their days. Naturally, they will seek to break the monotony of thier idleness through some sort of activity, and, unfortunately, this activity usually is not the sort that helps to build good character. Inevitably, therefore, the blow that falls first upon the youths themselves, will fall even more heavily upon their parents and other adults who will be made to suffer as a result of idle youths' intractability.

We sincerely hope that some way may be found whereby this blow to youth may be averted. We don't think the clamor for economy in government expenditures overshadows the necessity for building men out of our youths—at least, it should not. We think the worth of a correctly trained man is priceless. The CCC camps are engaged in training youth for manhood, and if we put manhood above dollars and cents, that program will be continued at all costs. The nation can make no better investment than to spend money for the character building of the sons and daughters of its citizens, and every true statesman is thoughtful enough to realize this. Let the CCC camps remain.

LABOR LAW AMENDMENTS.

The bill for the amended Wagner labor act has been introduced in the house by Representative Howard W. Smith, Virginia Democrat, chairman of the committee investigating the National Labor Relations board. He is supported by the two Republican members of the committee, Halleck of Indiana and Routzohn of Ohio. His two Democratic colleagues, Murdock of Utah and Healey of Massachusetts, oppose the bill and say it is intended to nullify the law.

The amendments are intended not to nullify the act but to make it equitable and workable. They are intended to produce an orderly and just administration and to make it possible for the purposes alleged in the original act to be carried out. The amending bill would create a new administrative process which would separate the investigation of complaints and the prosecution of abuses from the judicial function of passing on the evidence and making rules. The new administration of the law would become an orderly instead of a disorderly process. The administrator who presented a case would not be the judge.

The amendments also would restore the freedom of speech which has been nullified by the present board and introduce rules of evidence for the hearing of controversies. The opponents of these amendments who say that the intent is to break down the operation of the collective bargaining law are badly mistaken. The present board is breaking the law down and unless the practices are corrected and the procedure changed, it will fall under the weight of its own injustices and absurdities. A partisan dictatorship has been set up and unless it is supplanted by a fair administration the law will soon defeat itself.

Tomorrow's Jobs

IN a guest editorial for "Opportunity" Magazine, whose March issue is dedicated to the eighth Vocational Opportunity Campaign, sponsored by the National Urban League, Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt states:

"As this need of wider vocational education and guidance is necessary for all youth, we must use every vigilance so that colored youth obtains equal opportunity. They themselves must stress the fact that they are ready and willing to acquire skills, and that they will take advantage of every opportunity offered to them."

T. Arnold Hill, industrial relations director of the League, writing in the same issue, states: "The difference between being able to secure employment and remaining idle is not the difference between knowledge and ignorance, nor training and lack of training; but rather between an intelligent, alert, resourceful individual, and one who is the reverse."

Our college and high school graduates and students wrestling with the problem of unemployment will have to make a rapid descent from their dream clouds and face the realities at hand if they hope to find a place among the permanently employed.

The man or woman who 'acquires skills' and is not afraid to demonstrate a passion for putting them into service; the man or woman who is 'intelligent, alert, resourceful,' seldom changes employers or becomes a forlorn habitue of employment agencies. If they choose vocations for which they are best suited mentally, spiritually and temperamentally; if they keep in mind that employers rate an employe's usefulness on the basis of his ability to produce; and that they must be fully aware of what is required in modern industry and business—choosing a vocation would be much easier for our young people.

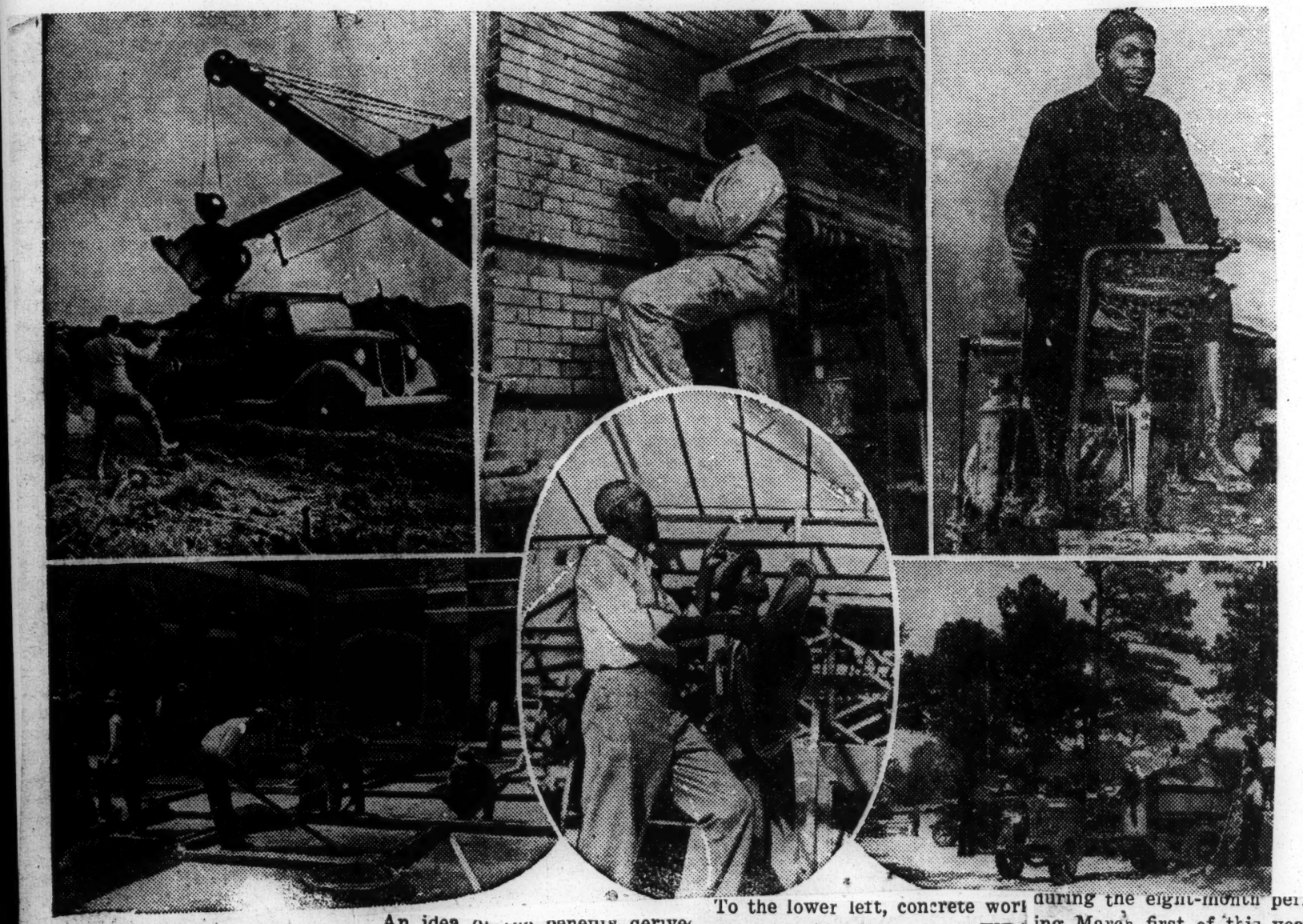
Georgia and Kansas Congressmen Fight For Negro Youth to Stay In CCC

WASHINGTON.—(ANP)—Urging that Negro CCC camps not be abolished, John M. Houston, Representative from Kansas, told James J. McEntee, director of the Civilian Conservation Corps, last week that Kansas was proud of her colored camp and did not want it taken away. Appearing before the House committee on appropriations, Houston and Malcolm C. Tarver, Representative from Georgia, continued with comment most favorable of the CCC camps in their states. Congressman Tarver said:

"Negro camps have been performing useful work in soil conservation and in other lines of activity under the jurisdiction of the Civilian Conservation Corps, and, insofar as it has been called to the attention of the committee, there has been orderly conduct on the part of these Negroes in the CCC camps. Facing a cut in appropriations for the work of CCC camps, these Congressmen were commended for coming to the front for the colored camps, which were reported would be the first to go in a retrenchment program.

LABOR- 1940
OCCUPATION, WAGES, ETC.

GENERAL



Private industrial firms and equipment contractors have received nearly $1,700,000,000 in orders for purchase of construction materials and equipment and rental of equipment on projects of the Work Projects Administration during the four years ending June 30, 1939. This announcement was just made by Deputy Work Projects Commissioner Howard C. Hunter as he pointed out that local goverments sponsoring WPA projects provided more than two thirds of the funds for purchases and two-fifths for equipment ren

An idea of the benefits derived by Negro citizens from this tremendous spending program which sped up the wheels of private industry is gleaned from the photographs above.

Left to right across the top row, a foreman is directing operations at one of the 648 airports built or improved by the WPA; a brick mason repairs a high school building in Chicago, Ill.; and a semi-skilled WPA worker operates a diesel-engine roller on a U. S. Army airport runway.

To the lower left, concrete workers are placing forms on a WPA construction project before cement is poured for the drill grounds at a New York National Guard Armory. In the center, W. A. Williams, Superintendent of State Teachers College WPA construction project, Montgomery, Ala., directs one of his foremen during building operations on the gym nasium. To the left, WPA workers in South Carolina build a farm-to-market road—adding it length to 68,000 miles of street and roadways built and improve

during the eight-month period ending March first of this year.

Among the WPA construction workers using the $1,700,000,000 worth of materials and equipmen some 39,000 Negro workers were employed on highways, roads and streets in eleven southern state In the same area over 10,000 work ed on publically owned or operat ed utilities; over 8,000 on public buildings; 6,338 on recreation facilities and 1,848 on conservation projects.

Action In U.S. Court Is Planned

International Brotherhood Behind Move

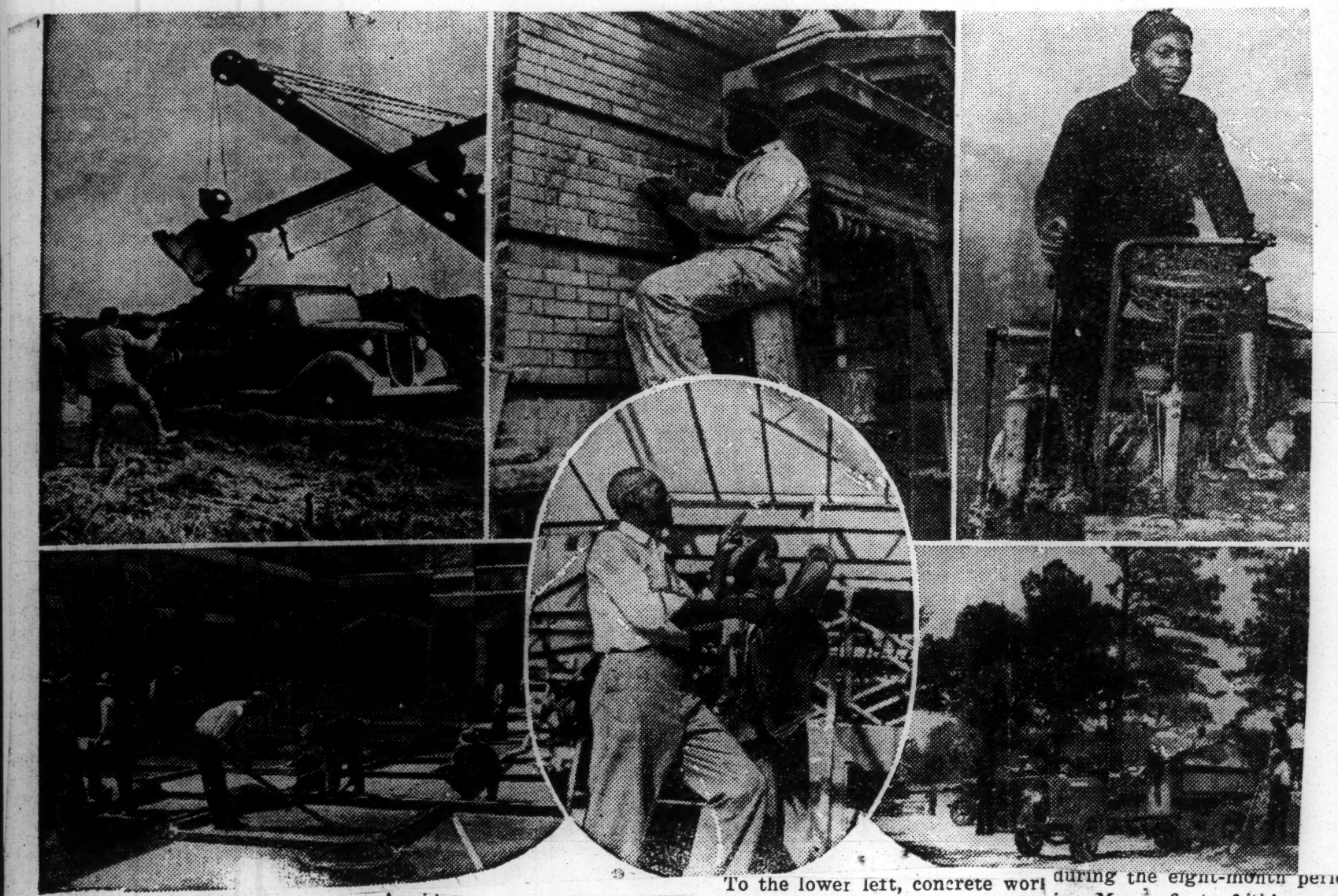
PHILADELPHIA—(ANP)—A suit is to be filed in federal court this week demanding a sum which may reach $790,000 from the Pennsylvania railroad and Pennsylvania Reading Seashore lines it was announced by Alfred H. McGhee, vice president of the International Brotherhood of Red Caps.

The union contends that amount is due 531 red caps of Philadelphia Baltimore Atlantic City and New York in back pay on the basis of $2 a day per man from Oct 23, 1938 to Oct. 23, 1939, and $2.40 daily since that time when the minimum wage was increased from 25 to 30 cents an hour. Double indemnity will be asked under section 16-B of the labor act McGhee said.

Because of imminent decisions involving the U. S. W. A., the Wage and Hour officials stated that members of the union would have fared better in their wage scales had they waited before signing. Present scale calls for 30c per hour This is said to be the lowest wage scale for any existing union in the United States

RED CAPS SIGN AGREEMENT WITH NEW YORK CENTRAL

NEW YORK—(ANP)—The agreement signed by the United Transport Service Workers of America formerly the Red Caps Union, with the New Yirk Central Railroad Grand Central Terminal Company and the Cleveland Union Terminal Co., last week, altho hailed as a significant victory by union officials



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This agreement, covering over 700 stations redcaps, porters and train porters, was signed by William S. Townsend, president of the union and members of the union's board of adjustment of the New York Central System.

Because of imminent decisions involving the U. T. S. W. A., the Wage and Hour officials stated that members of the union would have fared better in their wage scale had they waited before signing. Present scale calls for 30c per hour. This is said to be the lowest wage scale for any existing union in the United States

Budget Slash A Big Economic Set Back To Negroes

RELIEF WORKERS TURNED OFF IN LARGE NUMBERS; WIDE SPREAD UNEMPLOYMENT THROUGHOUT THE NATION

WASHINGTON, D. C.—More widespread unemployment and suffering among Negroes throughout the country were seen this week as a result of the drastic economies proposed by President Roosevelt in the 1941 budget submitted to Congress Thursday. Federal relief agencies, including WPA CCC camps and the National Youth Administration suffered slashes to the record total of $500,000,000.

In round numbers, persons to be dropped from the Federal payroll or those who will no longer get Federal assistance include: 500,000 from WPA, 55,000 from CCC camps and 106,000 from the National Youth Administration.

The saving effected by these cuts, it is reported, will go toward financing the all-time record national defense program, calling for the expenditure of $1,800,000,000.

Already, the severest sufferers from unemployment, Negroes will suffer immeasurably as a result of the proposed decrease of relief appropriations, it is declared.

While other groups have been able to move forward on the economic front with the pick-up in private industry and higher prices for agricultural products, the Negro has been forced to remain idle and wait his turn in the hope that he, too, will take his place in the re-hiring parade. But the Negro worker is being discriminated against by labor unions and he is not getting the benefit of the general pick-up in industry.

The 1941 budget cuts, according to an authority on Negro affairs, will affect the Negro family in two ways. On WPA, the head of the family or the breadwinner will be hit, and in the Civilian Conservation Corps and the National Youth Administration the youth of the land will receive a blow to their morale and ability to support themselves and help their parents. All told, it was said, at least 100,000 Negroes will be hit by the layoffs.

WPA Report Reveals Thousands Jobless

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16—More than a million members of the Race, including dependent members of their families, owed their livelihood to the WPA during the past year, a report made public by the Federal Works Agency disclosed this week.

The survey, prepared by Alfred Edgar Smith, staff adviser at WPA headquarters, revealed that Race citizens comprised 39 percent of all WPA workers in South Carolina and Louisiana, 37 percent in Georgia, 67 percent in the District of Columbia and 14 per cent in New York and Kansas. Similar percentages apply to other areas with large Race concentrations.

Observers believed that while the figures may not cover the entire extent of joblessness among the Race, they sufficiently indicate the seriousness of the general situation.

Although unskilled laborers comprised the bulk of the race's jobless, the report showed that a large number of professionals, including "doctors, dentists, pharmacists, writers musicians, teachers and artists' were forced to apply to the work-relief agency for help.

Unsuitable school houses in southern states, lack of recreational facilities as well as numerous malaria-breeding centers were some of the conditions WPA found in Race communities, and which it helped to correct.

Race WPA workers fired because of the Woodrum law or for quota reductions were found to be undergoing severe hardships. The report declared that although they "made every effort to secure employment in private industry, investigation has shown that they experienced great difficulty in finding steady work at an adequate wage."

Meanwhile, stirred by an announced additional 500,000 WPA layoff soon, as well as the huge slash proposed in the President's budget, the C.I.O., the Workers Alliance and the Trade Union Committee to Put America Back to Work have called for "broad actions" of the jobless "to resist every attempt to take away the gains won in the past few years."

Asserting that current reductions in WPA and those planned for the future are out of line with the needs of the unemployed, a spokesman for the C.I.O. said his organization believes that "spending for relief is more desirable than spending for national defense." He added that the C.I.O. will insist upon at least 3,000,000 WPA jobs for the unemployed.

NYA Employs 82,000 Youths

Washington.
The National Youth Administration employs a total of 82,000 colored youths in the 746,000 employed by it, Aubrey Williams, administrator, told a House Appropriations Subcommittee during hearings on estimates for his agency.
High school work, whereyoung people are in need, employs 35,000; 7,100 are engaged in college work, earning up to $20 a month, and 40,000 are employed on out-of-school programs for young people who have been forced to leave school.

Afro-American
3-30-40
Baltimore, Md.

Won't Support Tearing Down Of Labor Board, Declares NAACP

Statement Is Sent To Washington

NEW YORK—(S N S)—Complete opposition to the emasculating amendments to the National Labor Relations Act, proposed by the Smith Committee, and support of an amendment which would insure an eventual breakdown of discrimination against Negro workers in organized labor were the key points emphasized by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in statements filed with the House and Senator labor committees.

The statement, was sent to the House Labor Committee headed by Representative Mary T. Norton; and to the Senate Committe on Education and Labor, headed by Senator Elbert D. Thomas.

Officials of the organization explained that the statement was sent out in order to make it clear that the association was entirely opposed to those opposition'st groups whose aim is to destroy the Act and hurt labor as a whole. At the same time the Association wanted to give concrete expression to its unqualified opposition to te do-nothing tactics employed by some unions who have continued to discriminate against Negro workers.

The NAACP state in part, follows:

"The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People asks that by means of this communication it be permitted to express it unqualified opposition to emasculation of the National Labor Relations Act now proposed in H.R. 8813, the so-called Smith Amendments and strongly urges that these proposed amendments be rejected.

"The National Labor Relations Act is designed to aid labor in organizing freely and bargaining collectively. The proposed amendments can have no other effect than to hamper labor organization and to give employers additional legalistic excuses for refusing to bargain fairly and fully.

"The amendments also would abolish the present board and substitute less effective machinery. In view of the success if the present board in settling more than 90 per cent of its cases without any formal action, and its phenomenal record of only two reversals in 24 cases in the United States Supreme Court, there is no justification for the present effort to abolish the Board or to destroy its effectiveness.

"We are forced to believe that much of the support for the amendments proposed in H.R. 8813 grows out of dissatisfaction with the success of the Board in facilitating labor organization and not out of any sincere belief that it has failed to promote industrial peace through fair and effective bargaining.

"However, our objection to the proposed amendments does not mean that we believe the present Act to be perfect.

One Third Of Our Graduates Will Go Jobless—Getman

ALBANY, N. Y.—(ANP)—According to estimates of Dr. Arthur K. Getman of the New York State Education Department, more than 80,000 of the 250,000 boys and girls who will leave schools with fresh diplomas next month will fail to find jobs.

Getman believes that the solution for the 80,000 lies in increased vocational training in the high schools. "The hope to make the world safe for democracy echoed around the world 25 years ago sounds empty indeed to modern youth," said Getman. "Their inability to obtain jobs weighs heavily on their hearts and minds."

"In our generation youth want jobs," he commented. "As yet, however, scarcely more than a beginning has been made in the enrichment of our school services to prepare pupils for productive and remunerative employment."

RAIL COMPANIES "CLEANING UP" ON NEW 10-CENT RATE

NOV 30 1940

WASHINGTON, D. C., Nov. 27.—A preliminary investigation by the Wage and Hour Division of the Labor Department into the plan adopted by the Washington Terminal company to pay Red Caps the minimum wage prescribed by the wage-hour law, discloses a profit to the company of $2,718 a month.

The investigation was made at the request of Senator Elbert D. Thomas, Democrat, of Utah, in connection with his resolution to direct the administrator of the Wage and Hour Division of the Labor Department to investigate the extent to which the plan violates the letter or spirit of the wage-hour law, whether it is susceptible to regulation, and what legislation is necessary for its regulation under that law.

PROBE ORDERED BY COL. FLEMING

Under the plan, Red Caps are paid 30 cents an hour, the minimum wage prescribed in the law, but are required to collect from each passenger a charge of 10 cents for each bag or parcel carried.

Col. Philip B. Fleming, administrator of the Wage and Hour Division of the Labor Department, ordered an investigation made into the operation of the plan at the Grand Central Terminal in New York City also. The report of that investigation has not yet been received. He expects it in the near future.

With respect to the report of the preliminary investigation at the Washington Terminal, Col. Fleming informed Senator Thomas as follows:

"It appears that prior to the effective date of the Fair Labor Standards Act, Oct. 24, 1938, red cap service was sustained wholly by tips or gratuities given the red caps by the public. There does not appear to have been any cost to the terminal company. The red caps were even required to purchase and maintain, at their own expense, uniforms meeting the specifications of the company.

"During the period October 24, 1938, to April 14, 1940, when the company took credit for the tips and paid the red caps $84.54 on account of its 'guarantee' of the minimum wage.

"Notwithstanding, the records of the company show such credits for tips and cash payments by the company to each red cap in a total sum equal to the minimum-wage requirement, minimum-wage violations appear to have occurred by reason of the fact that the company unlawfully deducted from said total sum the cost of the red cap's uniform and maintenance thereof, and also liability for lost baggage.

"During the period April 15, 1940, to the present time the company has provided red cap service under the new plan, whereunder red caps are carried on the payroll and are paid the minimum wage in cash by the company, but are required to collect from passengers on behalf of the company, a charge by the company of 10 cents per bag or parcel carried.

"The company's records show that from April 15 to and including September 30 of this year (5½ months) red caps have collected from passengers and turned over to the company a total for such bag or parcel charges in the sum of $94,677.33. Payroll expenditures by the company for red cap service at the minimum-wage rate for said months amounted to $71,799.84. The gross profit to the company for this period was $22,877.49, or $4,159.54 per month; however, the company claims that its net profit for the period was only $14,950.23, or $2,718.22 per month."

Tell Pitiable Conditions Of 'Grapes Of Wrath' Workers

WASHINGTON—(A N P)—Florida migratory workers, according to testimony presented the Senate Civil Liberties committee last week, live in squalor residing in tents, trailers, tarpaper shacks and tree houses as part of the official testimony of John Beecher of the FSA.

Revealing similar conditions as related in previous ANP dispatches concerning the condition of these workers, Mr. Beecher told the committee that white and colored workers in the migratory area were

Squalor of Negro Migrants Told Senate Group

being exploited by their employers and had no method of obtaining relief from the conditions in which they found themselves.

"The typical colored migrant workers occupy a 10 by 10 stall in a barracks like shed," he reported, "with rent running from $1 to $1.50 a week. If there is water spigot for use of all the families in the shed, rentals are increased 25 cents per week. When there is no spigot, workers must buy drinking water at a penny a pail at the nearest store."

Mr. Beecher put the number of migrant workers with their families at a minimum of 50,000 persons. He is supervisor of two farm security camps for migratory labor in Florida.

Nashville, Tenn. Tennessean
June 9. 1940

RACES SAID MIXED IN U. S. PROJECTS

Straus States Negroes, Whites Live in Same Buildings In Some States

From Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON, June 8—(Spl)—Nathan Straus, administrator of the United States Housing Authority, admitted today that Negro and white families occupied jointly several of the agency's projects.

He added, however, that this was done only in those states where laws "forbid discrimination on the basis of race in the use of public facilities."

Straus' admission comes as he charged an unnamed opponent of President Roosevelt's bill to enlarge the loan authorization of the USHA had circulated statements and made comments about racial occupancy of local housing projects which indicate a misunderstanding or misrepresentation of the policy of the USHA."

BASED ON STORY

The Straus announcement was based on a newspaper story appearing in the Washington Post of May 31. It said "A Southern opponent of President Roosevelt's bill to enlarge the loan authorization of the USHA, is circulating among his colleagues copies of a speech of a USHA official praising the fact that white and colored residents live side by side in some 20 federal housing projects."

The congressman referred to is generally believed to be Rep. Albert Gore, of Tennessee. The Straus announcement was taken as an attack on him.

Gore has been leading the fight on the USHA loan authorization bill.

Straus said there were six USHA projects to which Negro families have been admitted, as well as white families. All are located in states which have statutes forbidding discrimination on the basis of race in the use of public facilities.

13 PWA PROJECTS

In addition, there are 13 PWA housing projects, "practically all of which have been leased to local housing authorities in accordance with local laws and customs," Straus added.

He explained that the question of racial occupancy of housing projects was determined by local housing authorities, and that the USHA merely loaned the local authorities the money to build them.

"No local housing authority in the North, South, East or West has ever criticized policies regarding racial occupancy of projects," Straus said.

"Indeed, the local authorities could not criticize these policies, for they themselves are making them."

MIXED OCCUPANCY

The six USHA projects where mixed occupancy is permitted are located in New Jersey, Ohio, New York and Nebraska. The 13 PWA projects are located in these four states as well as in Connecticut, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, Massachusetts and Pennsylvania.

The pending USHA authorization bill carries funds for completion of Nashville's extensive housing program.

The racial question is said to have tended to delay house action on the compromise bill which was being discussed in the banking and currency committee. The committee contains a number of Southerners, including Gore.

Believes Pullman Porters Can Work Independently

Journal & Guide
9/28/40

Editor, Journal and Guide: There is a bill now being considered by the United States Senate, sponsored by the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Conductors, an affiliate of the American Federation of Labor, to prohibit Pullman porters in the service of the Pullman Company from running in-charge of Pullman cars. According to a statement by the Hon. Robert Crosser of Ohio when presenting the bill in the House of Representatives on Tuesday, A. Philip Randolph, president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car porters, endorsed April 16, 1940 the bill as follows: "Concretely speaking, Pullman porters may run in-charge of one car at a small differential in wages above the standard rate, but they are not promoted to the rank of conductor or a dining car steward, thereby bestowing an unfair economic advantage to the carriers. These hyphenated occupational advantages are more apparent than real."

It is inconceivable that the president of a union who has prated long and loud to convince the porters and the public that the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters Union made porters' jobs more secure by giving them protection, should endorse any legislation that would cause members to lose jobs that they now hold without gaining for them any corresponding advantages; and yet, that is just what Mr. Randolph has actually done.

The reputation of the Pullman service the world over is, to a large degree, due to the porters' untiring efforts. Records show that for more than sixty years, before unions were thought of by Pullman service employees, porters have been running in-charge, collecting revenue on Pullman cars, faithfully serving several generations of Pullman passengers, with credit to the company, to the public and to themselves.

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National President, Pullman Porters and Maids Protective Association, Eastern Headquarters.
New York. N. Y.

Dothan, Ala., Herald
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The Black Dispatch

However, the new bill calls for a qualifying examination which many think will eliminate at least one-fourth of those holding down jobs.

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In the wording of the bill, Section 23 says "In carrying out the provisions of this title and the provisions of the Classification Act of 1923 into effect under this bill, there should be no discrimination on account of race, creed or color. The house receded from this, because the constitution of the United States provides that there shall be no such discrimination."

At the same time, Sen. Meade of New York, who had been active in the passage of the bill, was sent a letter from the civil service commission as follows:

"In response to your inquiry, you are advised that the commission has been considering for some time the matter of eliminating photographs in civil service examinations.

"Photographs have been required by the commission solely for the purpose of preventing impersonations and fraud in examinations, by the use of photographs in connection with civil service applications. However, the steps to eliminate fingerprints will not be taken until the president signs the bill.

This letter was signed by the three members of the commission.

Tell Pitiable Conditions Of 'Grapes Of Wrath' Workers

WASHINGTON—(A N P)—Florida migratory workers, according to testimony presented the Senate Civil Liberties committee last week, live in squalor residing in tents, trailers, tarpaper shacks and near tree houses as part of the official testimony of John Beecher of the FSA.

Revealing similar conditions as related in previous ANP dispatches concerning the condition of these workers, Mr. Beecher told the committee that white and colored workers in the migratory area were

Squalor of Negro Migrants Told Senate Group

being exploited by their employers and had no method of obtaining relief from the conditions in which they found themselves.

"The typical colored migrant workers occupy a 10 by 10 stall in a barracks like shed," he reported, "with rent running from $1 to $1.50 a week. If there is water spigot for use of all the families in the shed, rentals are increased 25 cents per week. When there is no spigot, workers must buy drinking water at a penny a pail at the nearest store."

Mr. Beecher put the number of migrant workers with their families at a minimum of 50,000 persons. He is supervisor of two farm security camps for migratory labor in Florida.

Nashville, Tenn. Tennessean
June 9, 1940

RACES SAID MIXED IN U. S. PROJECTS

Straus States Negroes, Whites Live in Same Buildings In Some States

From Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON, June 8—(Spl)—Nathan Straus, administrator of the United States Housing Authority admitted today that Negro and white families occupied jointly several of the agency's projects.

He added, however, that this was done only in those states where laws "forbid discrimination on the basis of race in the use of public facilities."

Straus' admission comes as he charged an unnamed opponent of President Roosevelt's bill to enlarge the loan authorization of the USHA had circulated statements and made comments about racial occupancy of local housing projects which indicate a misunderstanding or misrepresentation of the policy of the USHA."

BASED ON STORY

The Straus announcement was based on a newspaper story appearing in the Washington Post of May 31. It said "A Southern opponent of President Roosevelt's bill to enlarge the loan authorization of the USHA, is circulating among his colleagues copies of a speech of a USHA official praising the fact that white and colored residents live side by side in some 20 federal housing projects."

The congressman referred to is generally believed to be Rep. Albert Gore, of Tennessee. The Straus announcement was taken as an attack on him.

Gore has been leading the fight on the USHA loan authorization bill.

Straus said there were six USHA projects to which Negro families have been admitted, as well as white families. All are located in states which have statutes forbidding discrimination on the basis of race in the use of public facilities.

13 PWA PROJECTS

In addition, there are 13 PWA housing projects, "practically all of which have been leased to local housing authorities in accordance with local laws and customs," Straus added.

He explained that the question of racial occupancy of housing projects was determined by local housing authorities, and that the USHA merely loaned the local authorities the money to build them.

"No local housing authority in the North, South, East or West has ever criticized policies regarding racial occupancy of projects," Straus said.

"Indeed, the local authorities could not criticize these policies, for they themselves are making them."

MIXED OCCUPANCY

The six USHA projects where mixed occupancy is permitted are located in New Jersey, Ohio, New York and Nebraska. The 13 PWA projects are located in these four states as well as in Connecticut, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, Massachusetts and Pennsylvania.

The pending USHA authorization bill carries funds for completion of Nashville's extensive housing program.

The racial question is said to have tended to delay house action on the compromise bill which was being discussed in the banking and currency committee. The committee contains a number of Southerners, including Gore.

Believes Pullman Porters Can Work Independently

Editor, Journal and Guide: There is a bill now being considered by the United States Senate, sponsored by the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Conductors, an affiliate of the American Federation of Labor, to prohibit Pullman porters in the service of the Pullman Company from running in-charge of Pullman cars. According to a statement by the Hon. Robert Crosser of Ohio when presenting the bill in the House of Representatives on Tuesday, A. Philip Randolph, president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car porters, endorsed April 16, 1940 the bill as follows: "Concretely speaking, Pullman porters may run in-charge of one car at a small differential in wages above the standard rate, but they are not promoted to the rank of conductor or a dining car steward, thereby bestowing an unfair economic advantage to the carriers. These hyphenated occupational advantages are more apparent than real."

It is inconceivable that the president of a union who has prated long and loud to convince the porters and the public that the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters Union made porters' jobs more secure by giving them protection, should endorse any legislation that would cause members to lose jobs that they now hold without gaining for them any corresponding advantages; and yet, that is just what Mr. Randolph has actually done.

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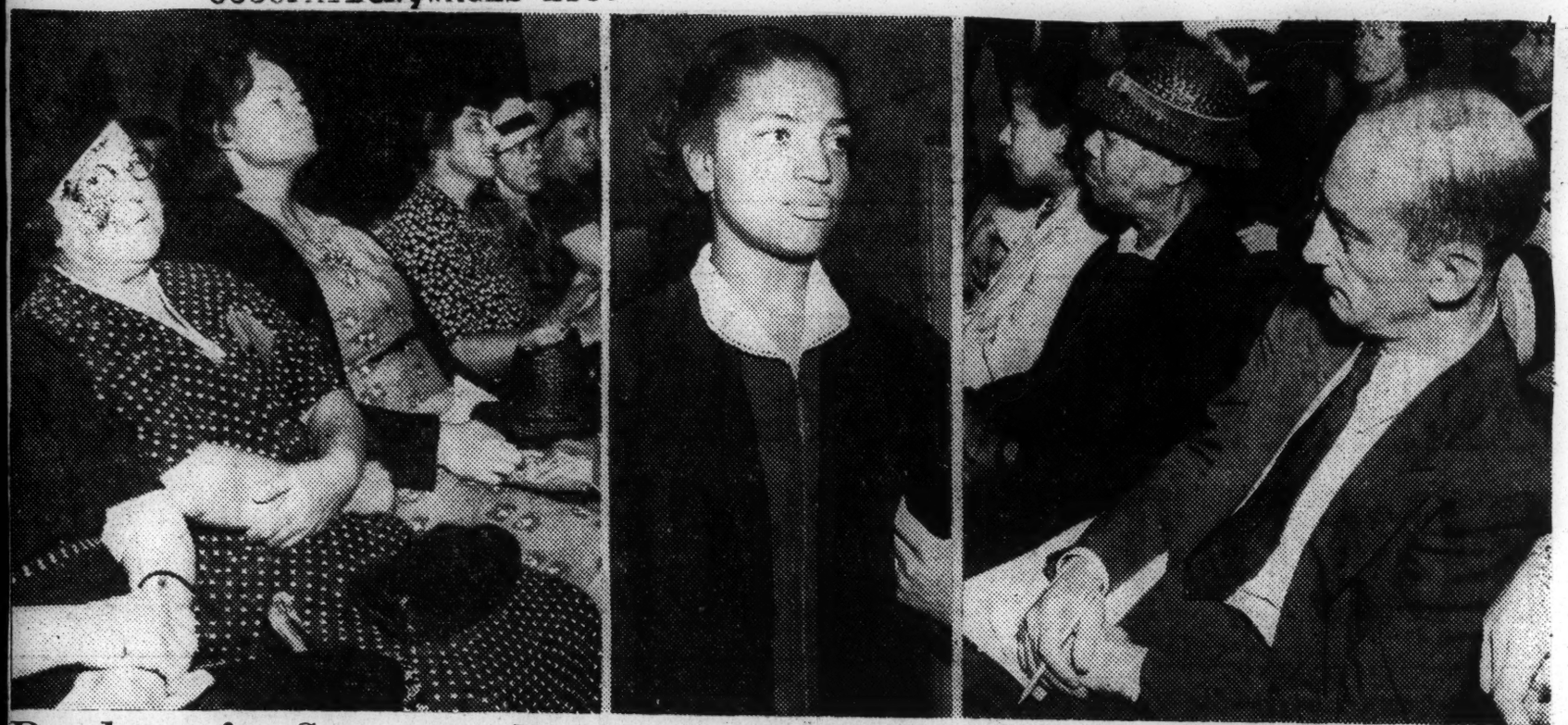
At the same time, Sen. Meade of New York, who had been active in the passage of the bill, was sent a letter from the civil service commission as follows:

"In response to your inquiry, you are advised that the commissions and fraud in examinations, ly to abolish the use of photo- However, the steps to eliminate sion has been considering for and the commission is convinced graphs in connection with civil fingerprints will not be taken unsome time the matter of eliminat- that such impersonations and til the president signs the bill. ing photographs in civil service frauds can best be detected by examinations. This letter was signed by the use of fingerprints. For the reason stated, th commission solely for the three members of the commission. purpose of preventing impersona-

LABOR- 1940
OCCUPATION, WAGES ETC.

GENERAL



Drudgery for Starvation Wages: Was the tale told yesterday by miserably low paid hotel employes before a hearing of a minimum wage board here. Above, center, is Muriel Price, a hotel apartment maid, who along with others, testified. Above left and right are part of the crowd of union officials and hotel employes who took part in the board hearings.

Low Paid Workers Tell of Miserable Conditions in 'High Toned' Hotels

By Beth McHenry

Low class conditions for workers in high class hotels were dramatically described yesterday by a series of girls and women whose voices trembled angrily as they testified at the third public hearing on the Hotel Minimum Wage Board's report.

The hearing, held in the state Office Building, 80 Centre St., was conducted by Industrial Commissioner Frieda S. Miller; Leon Rosenthal, Board member representing the Public; and Kate Papert, director of the State Division of Women in Industry.

Typical of the drab stories of hard life working in hotels, of meals not on the "regular" menu, and conditions incredibly far behind the sparest routine of decent living, was the experience related by Agnes Shea, who works for $2.94 a week as a waitress in a New York hotel, has to give 40 cents a day to the bus boy, wash her own silver in the morning, wash her own aprons at night, and stand up for meals in the kitchen because there are "people" eating in the dining room.

MAKES $9 WEEKLY

Miss Shea said that she averaged about $9 a week in tips. But she and others who testified expressed their anxiety for a decent minimum wage in place of uncertain tips.

The Hotel Minimum Wage Board recently made public its report which recommended an hourly wage rate of 33 cents for chambermaids in New York City hotels and 26 cents for waitresses. The report also recommended a guaranteed weekly wage of $10 for residential employes in New York hotels, free uniforms and laundry service; no deductions from pay, except as provided for by law; pay for waiting time; and a basic 45-hour week, with time and a half for overtime.

All non-service employes are to receive 36 cents an hour, while provision is made that in cases where employes receive one meal a day their rate is to be three cents an hour less, and six cents an hour less if they receive two or more meals.

A score of representatives of unions and civic organizations appeared at the hearing to express their opinion that the recommendations should be made into law immediately. Union representatives were particularly emphatic about the still inadequate provisions suggested in the report, but expressed their anxiety that such provisions nevertheless become effective at once as a "step forward" to humane wages and conditions in the hotel industry.

CITE UNION GAINS

Jay Rubin, president of the New York Hotel Trades Council, AFL, pointed out that in hotels having signed contracts with the hotel unions, wages are equal to and in some cases already better than the modest requirements of this proposed law.

Mr. Rubin, who made a point of the necessity for providing that the work of the chambermaids be measured in terms of "rooms" as well as by hours, charged that employers are already trying to make their employes squeeze the work formerly done within 48 hours into 40 or 38 hours.

Other union officials who testified in favor of making the proposed law effective at once included John J. Sullivan, secretary of the Council; Miguel Garriga, president of Local 6, Hotel and Club Employes' Union; Gertrude Lane, General Organizer of Local 6; William Mesevich, Manager of the Local Joint Executive Board of the Hotel and Restaurant Employes' International Alliance and Bartenders' International League of America, and Harry Reich, Secretary of the State Culinary Alliance of the Hotel and Restaurant Employes.

Representatives of other organizations recording their support for the proposed law included Juliette Barklet of the Women's City Club; Irma Rittenhouse of the New York Consumers' League; Pauline Neuman of the New York Women's Trade Union League, and Mrs. Rita Morris of the New York League of Women Voters.

40 ROOMS A DAY

Muriel Price, who works in a rooming house on West 109th St., told of "doing up" 40 rooms a day, making approximately 50 beds, and getting $11.54 a week, with neither meals nor room thrown in.

"What can a girl do who has to live as I do?" she asked. "How can we have any sort of life? I live with my family in a 4-room railroad flat on the East Side. My father is a Red Cap. Between him and myself, we have to keep the house going. I don't even have a

Big Growth Negro Auto Workers

St. Louis, Aug. 12 (W. Allen for CNA)—An all time high of 11,000 Negro members was recorded by the fifth constitutional convention of the United Auto Workers, CIO, which closed here this week. The union reported phenomenal growth in membership since its 1939 Cleveland convention.

Keen discussion prevailed in committees of the convention as to the big job of organizing the remaining 50,000 Negro auto workers still unorganized. First point of concentration, it was indicated, will be the 15,000 Negroes employed at Ford's.

Walter Hardin, active organizer of Ford workers told your correspondent that Willis Ward Negro athlete and now a Ford agent and employee, is making a survey of unionized plants where Negroes are employed.

The purpose of this explained Hardin, is to find out the gains Negroes have made under unionization. According to Harden, the Ford outfit then intends to use the information as an attempted medium of showing that "in union plants Negroes are still discriminated against and that Ford is still the only place where Negroes can work for a good boss."

Nothing could be further from the truth, all of the Negro delegates declared. They pointed out that today in union shops practically all of the old standards of work—first to be fired last to be hired—and the district jobs for Negroes at lowest wages—are things of the past.

Delegate James Walker from Local 205 told of the union conditions in the plant where he is shop chairman. Wages which formerly were at 40 cents an hour before theu nion was organized, today go up to and beyond $1.00 an hour.

Vic Ford, delegate from Briggs Local 212, is responsible for bringing hundreds of Negroes into the union, making them active unionists.

Ford is known as one of the best grievance settlers in the giant Mack Avenue plant of the Briggs Mfg. Corporation. The comparison, he said, between present conditions in Briggs, and what it was before the U. A. W.-CIO came, can best be explained by the name "hell-hole" given it by Negro and white both, when the plant was unorganized.

Today, instead of 40 cents an hour, the Negro workers get 90 cents and up. A tall, sturdy Executive Board member, U. Landfair of Local 208 said that at present he is fighting in his particular neighborhood back home against a vicious Ku Klux Klan movement to drive Negroes out of that neighborhood.

Sharply worded resolutions against lynching, for the passage of the Anti-Lynching Bill, and the Gever Anti-Poll Tax bill, for organizing Negro women into the union's Woman's Auxiliary, show the integral part now played by the Negro workers in this union, which today is on record to completely unionize 50,000 more Negro auto workers by the next convention in 1941.

room to myself. I give all my salary at home, keeping only about $2 a week for carfare and lunch and stockings."

Miss Price said other girls with whom she works are even worse off than herself.

"They live in Harlem where rooms are higher than anywhere else," she related. "You just wouldn't believe how bad it is for us."

$2.10 IN 3 MONTHS

Mary Roudell, who has worked in "high class" hotels for more than four years as a chambermaid and now earns a salary of $7.36 a week, said the idea of tips was decidedly over-rated.

"I've made $2.10 in tips since I went to work in this last place three months ago," she told the board.

Esther Weilburg, an exceptionally pretty and spirited girl who works as a chambermaid in a midtown hotel, asked the board why "we must have such a low minimum."

"We work about as hard as any women I ever heard of," she said. "I have to do 22 rooms a day and 12 baths. We have to contend with all sorts of mess and filth."

Miss Weilburg scoffed at the importance employes try to make of tips. She told of receiving such "tips" as "stockings with runs in them, 20 cents, and a dirty nightgown."

FEW OWNERS SHOW UP

Few employers put in their appearance at yesterday's hearing, but two representatives of the Resident Club Owners Asscciation tried to persuade the board that the minimum wage requirements should not apply to the rooming house industry.

Arthur A. Goodman, such a representative, who gave his address as 319 West 92nd St., attacked the union for bringing "shortened hours and paid vacations" to rooming house workers.

Goodman, who attempted to picture the maid in a rooming house as a body who worked full hours without exactly needing full pay, spoke of the possible "necessity" of employers resorting to devious means of getting around this law by cutting out certain services altogether and letting workers go.

Irving S. Freedman, attorney for the Resident Club Owners Association, got up to "put the English on" what his client had testified. He also, although more smoothly, attacked the unions and even slipped in the name of Scalise, whom he pictured as the type of union representative with whom rooming house employers must contend.

UNIONIST PROTESTS

Jay Rubin rose to oppose any exemption for rooming house workers, pointing out that chambermaids in such establishments perform identical labors with maids in big hotels.

"As a matter of fact," he informed the Commissioner, "a chambermaid in a rooming house works even harder than an hotel maid, when you consider that rooming house tenants 'live' more in their rooms, making more work for the maid. Also, the maid in a rooming house lacks the facilities of a big hotel."

Answering the attempt of the employers' lawyer to slip the name of Scalise into the record as a representative of labor in this field, Mr. Rubin pointed out that it was the employers who paid graft to Scalise to hold back any better conditions for workers.

The union head also scoffed at the use of the "competition" excuse for exemption of rooming house workers from the provisions of the proposed law, pointing out that hotel owners use the same argument.

"In any case, rooming houses are part of the same sick industry as hotels are," he reminded the Board "They too are owned by banks and big insurance companies, and seldom by single proprietors anymore."

A number of witnesses protested the temporary differential between resort wages and conditions and those of city workers. The Board's recommendations provide that upstate the rates will be 2 cents an hour less until March 1941 and one cent until March 1942, when rates will become the same all over the state.

RED CAPS FILE FOR HEARING IN FEE CASE

The United Transport Service Employees of America, representing a majority of the nation's red caps, today, filed a petition to intervene in the ten cents baggage fee hearings to be held before the Interstate Commerce Commission, September 9 at Cincinnati, Ohio, it was announced by Willard S. Townsend president of the Union.

The hearing is a result of a formal complaint filed before the Commission by Mrs. Ida M. Stopher of Cincinnati, against the Cincinnati Union Terminal Company. Mrs. Stophes protested the payment to the company of ten cents fee for the handling of luggage which she had turned over to a red cap employee of the company. She asked that the company be asked to answer charges of violations of various sections of the Interstate Commerce Act.

The entrance of the red caps' union into the controversy is based on the nature of a recent contract revisions with a number of railroad companies covering the disposition of the income received for the ten cents baggage fee, union officials stated. Supporting the contention of the attorneys for Mrs. Stopher as to the illegality of the fee placed upon passengers, the union maintains that it has been compelled by the imposition of the illegal charge to negotiate wages for red caps on an illegal basis, which has resulted in the wholesale espionage, intimidation and coercion among the employees by the railroads.

Seeking a definition of the status of these contracts, the Union in its intervening petition asks that a number of major railroad companies, with which it holds agreements, be made parties to the proceedings along with the Cincinnati Terminal Company.

Willard S. Townsend, president of the UTSEA, in commenting upon the affects of the ten cents charge placed on the passenger, stated that the plan is merely a continuation of the attempt of the railroads to escape the responsibility of paying the red caps out of the legitimate funds of the companies. "It virtually amounts" Mr. Townsend declared, "to the payment of red caps' salaries by an additional levy on the general public and merely stands as a more formal tipping system. It might be of interest to the public that the nation's railroads pay annually in wages $1,700,000,000.

Were all red caps placed on a legitimate wage basis, the railroads estimate that the cost would not exceed $4,000,000 annually which is less than ½ of the 1% of the annual pay roll of the railroads, union officials stated.

Back Wages To Workers In Tenn.

MEMPHIS, Tenn., — Thirty two local women who probably never received in wages more than 25 cents an hour in all their lives were awarded sums totaling $4,000 in back pay following a fight against the Dixie Pickle company.

The award made by the Wage and Hour division of the department of labor, was the result of efforts made in behalf of Race employes by the CIO union, the Cannery and Agricultural Workers union.

When demands for back wages for the women were made, the company denied having violated the Wage and Hour law and then fired. Representatives from both the National Maritime union and the Steel Workers Organizing committee joined the fight to have the women reinstated.

The fight was continued until the women were reinstated last week paid for the time they were off and paid 4,000 in back wages.

Witnesses Have Their Say On Pullman Porters' Bill Prior To Last Withdrawal

Testimony Presented To Senator Sherman Minton in Final Appeal Before Legislation Begins

Many Get Opportunity To Testify

WASHINGTON.—(ANP)—Midst all of the hue and cry raised over the Crosser bill for the elimination of porters-in-charge in Pullman cars, interesting is the testimony submitted to the senate committee presided over by Sen. Sherman Minton, some of which is herewith submitted.

One M. B. Cunningham of Fort Worth, Texas, declared he thought it advisable to have conductors on Pullman cars because porters "do not like dead people, they are afraid of ghosts. I imagine that was what was the matter with him," referring to the refusal of a porter to come to the dressing room where a white woman had suddenly died.

Champ Carry of the Pullman company: "I think some men are probably more capable and dependable than others. The men we have selected in that group of porters in charge have selected because of their known character, ability and reliability. They are men who have been in the Pullman service a great many years. I think there are a great many other men who are not operating as porters in charge who would be qualified, but the ones so operating are certainly qualified, and the men of this group have an average service with the company of 22 years.

"They are not just strangers picked up and put in these positions. The company spends a great deal of time and effort and money in training all employees and I want to make clear that porters who are in charge receive identically the same training and instructions that conductors receive. Our experience has shown that they are just as capable and absorb and understand this training. It is also shown that they do the job and put the job over as well as any other group can do.

"Now the conductors have from time to time placed a great deal of stress upon the obligations of their group to operate the ventilating system and to control the air-conditioning and heating systems. The fact of the matter is that the porter is responsible in the first place for that condition in his car, and therefore he is given identically the same training on that score that conductors receive. And in practice he has shown himself to be as capable of handling that part of the work.

"It has been our experience that train porters will cooperate with porters just as fully as with conductors.

"Yesterday I listened to testimony here by several Pullman conductors, and was rather startled by the attack that was made on the ability and character of porters. I believe it was a very unjust attack upon a body of men whose records will stand any investigation. We know the character and reliability of people are not matters of race or color; and we know that the porters who are operating in charge particularly have a record that is second to none."

Said Miss Bessie D. Chantler, of the National Travelers' Aid association: "I have spoken from my personal experience—that I have really the highest regard—and I usually make it my business to talk with porters; I enjoy them. They usually know a great deal about the country through which they are traveling, and I have a chance to know them, and I have always been very much impressed with their capabilities and their ability to handle people and not to go beyond the point at which you like them to go."

Recalled to the stand, Mr. Curry again tributed the porters in this fashion:

"There was quite a little emphasis laid on the fact that porters do not have very much desire to help with people who die. Now, I do not know what the significance of that statement was, but I have a good deal of sympathy with porters on that score, because I personally have at great an aversion to having anything to do with dead people as anyone could possibly have. So I do not apologize for the porters or for my own feelings on that score.

"But if the intention was to indicate or to illustrate that because of this attitude on the part of the porters, they were not courageous and brave men, that I say a position is attempted to be taken that is not sustained by the facts because the records are full of heroic action on the part of porters. By way of illustration I might refer to the unfortunate wreck up at Little Falls, when Pullman cars' porters continued to help move passengers from cars after several of them had been seriously injured. They are courageous and brave and in saying that, of course, I am not saying that conductors are not courageous and brave, because the record of conductors is excellent on that score.

"But, like character, bravery is not a matter of any one group; it is not a quality of any one group. The record for bravery of porters of heroism in time of need is excellent. I could and would be able to submit real evidence on that score."

Sen. Minton when informed of the attitude of the general public towards the bill, which he presented in the senate, withdrew it after learning that the proposal had met the condemnation of right thinking people.

However, even before this was done, there was a general feeling that the Crosser bill as it was known, would not come before the present session of Congress.

Barbering Made Easy By Griffin's Barber College

Jeffersonville, Ga., New Era
August 16. 1940

Griffin's Barber College, 556 Mitchell Street, S. W., Atlanta, Georgia, has one of the best faculties in the country and has turned out so many successful male and female barbers and skin specialists that its method of instruction is being more widely sought daily Physically handicapped persons can get special help.

J. F. Griffin, resident of the college, presents graphic evidence to prove his students pass all state board exams and make good in every state. It doesn't require either a college or senior high school education to learn his system. Men and women with a common education can qualify.

Barbering offers dignified work and a chance to be one's own boss.

WILL HAVE TO PAY BACK SALARIES

Atlanta Daily World Employees Will Get $2,000.

ATLANTA, Ga., Aug. 8.—Under a consent decree, signed Tuesday by Federal Judge E. M. Underwood, enjoining the publication from further violation of the U.S. Wage-Hour law, the Atlanta World, daily newspaper, will have to pay to 21 employees back wages totaling $4,000.

The decree was issued following formal complaint to the Federal court that Cornelius Scott, administrator for W. A. Scott, former owner of the daily, had failed to pay required minimum wages, failed to pay overtime, and failed to keep proper records. The complaint was filed by the Atlanta Wage-Hour Regional office.

Warehouse Gives Fish Fry to Negroes

On last Friday afternoon the Allentown warehouse company gave a fish fry to about 200 of their colored patrons and friends. They were present from Twiggs, Wilkinson, Bleckley and Laurens counties.

The management of the Warehouse company invited the Twiggs county colored agent, S. H. Lee, to make the main talk. He impressed upon his hearers the importance of having a home orchard, a year-round garden, better preparations for the home poultry, milk and butter supply, the better fertilizing of all crops; and he especially stressed more care in picking and storing their cotton in preparation for ginning.

At the conclusion of the talk, both Mr. Land and Mr. Allen Daughtry expressed great pleasure in what the speaker had to say; and urged everybody to eat all the fish and other refreshments they wanted.

The Right of Negro Labor

Dispatch
Richmond

As a member of the resolutions committee, at the 31st annual session of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, we wrote and had incorporated a paragraph, in the statement to the nation, which we feel is more important than any other section of it. It relates to labor, and deals with a phase of the labor situation to which few Negro leaders seem to be paying any attention.

Beginning with the NRA and on up to the present time, every type of legislation dealing with the security of labor, has excluded from its benefits outside workers, agriculturists and domestics. We went to Philadelphia determined that this should go into the resolutions and following our arrival, we listened to discussions dealing with the futility of effort on the part of those living in urban centers who could find no rift in the clouds of their economy.

Here is the section we drafted:

Wages and Labor

While we believe in the basic principles of the wage and hour law, we at the same time realize that an overwhelming majority of the Negroes in the United States are engaged in those activities that are excluded from the benefits of the existing law. We believe the Congreess should extend the provisions of the wage and hour law and Social Security legislation to include domestic and agricultural laborers.

We believe further that the federal government should eliminate from the WPA and other relief set-ups vicious regional wage differtials, and that in the allocation of federal funds for highway and other purposes, provisions should be made that no discrimination should be made on account of race, creed or origin in the administration and expenditure of said funds.

Take our present wage and hour law. Domestics, outside laborers and agriculturists are excluded. Sure the law does not exclude Negroes as such, but every well informed black man knows that the majority of Negro workers come within that classification.

At a time when the world is attempting to justify the democratic process, this is when we should argue that an even spread of democracy should be extended directly to human energy. We doubt very seriously that the girl who hammers typewriter keys expends half the energy as the patient washwoman who "busts suds" every week.

Such laws offer no social security to Negro men and women who work out in service. So long as such laws remain on the statute books Negroes are doomed as victims of three and four dollar per week salaries in many sections of the far south.

If we have a surplus of agricultural commodities, as our experts tell us, why is it necessary to continue rural hours of labor from "sun to sun? Why not plough up a few of the back breaking hours of rural labor instead of ploughing up the crops?

The Black Dispatch believes that the N. A. A. C. P. Resolutions incorporate a section for which the Negro leaders in the Republican and the Democratic party should battle.

In the second paragraph we dig more definitely at the same thing. When the federal government started paying relief wages to regimented citizens, members of congress from certain sections rushed in and had a "prevailing wage" clause included in the regulations.

Briefly the regulation adopted provides for the creation of labor regions and it also provides that the federal government will not pay relief wages higher than the regular and prevailing wage scale in that particular region. In the south we actually abandoned state rights and adopted a regional existence in order to maintain the status quo in wages.

No more ruinous policy was ever adopted. We have heard of the man who cut off his nose to spite his face, and we always thought that it was the most chemerical illustration we have ever noted. But the Southern states are guilty of exercising this absurd, dumb bell philosophy in the matter of wages and hours.

When the federal government collects federal taxes it collects from every citizen identically and the same. But when the government goes to pay back we foolishly tell the government not to give us as much as is given to other states. What would you think of a man who would join with others in placing his dollar in a common fund, but when division time came, this man said give me a dime and the rest of you take your dollars? States whose prevailing wage scale is higher than in the south have secured more benefits from WPA and other relief setups than the states in the southern regions.

Until something is done like what we are discussing here Negro labor conditions will not improve. Organizations that seek to change conditions under existing law have failed before they start. Negroes who have the ear of the Republican high command and likewise Negroes who have the ear of the Democratic party chieftains should fight for inclusion of outside workers, domestics and agriculturists in the wage and hour laws.

Maximum Hours And Minimum Price Told To Beauticians

Daily worker 6-24-40 Atlanta, Ga.

The Atlanta Beauty Culture League met Sunday in the assembly room of the YMCA.

William Driskell introduced J. B. Watson, white, a member of the City Board, who said that the recently passed the law will do more for beauticians than any law that has been passed by the city. Mrs. Marie McNinch who is secretary of the Board, explained the laws and price list to the members.

All colored beauty shops must open not earlier than 8 A.M. and close by or before 8 P.M. except on Saturdays and the day preceding a holiday when they remain open until 10 P. M. All customers who may be in the shop before closing hours can be served.

It is very necessary that all shop owners get a copy of the price list and laws from Mrs. NcNinch, 33 Peachtree Arcade. Telephone: MAin 2673.

Price affecting colored establishments are as follows:

Shampoo, Press and and End Curls with Marcelle:	
Iron	$ .70
Long Hair	1.00
Short Thick Hair	1.00
Plain Press	.50
Manicure	.50
Touch up and End Curls with Marcelle Iron	.50
Oil Shampoo, Press and End Curls with Marcelle Iron	1.00
Hot Oil Application with Shampoo	.50
Hot Oil Shampoo, Press and End Curls with Marcelle Iron	1.00
Touchup and Retrace with Marcelle Iron	.50
Retrace within 3 days	.25
Retrace after 3 days	.50
Croquinole Wave with Marcelle Iron	.75
Marcelle Wave with Iron	.75
Croquinole End Curled with Marcelle Iron	.50
Touchup and Wave with Marcelle Iron	1.00
Ends Curled with Marcelle Iron: Two rows	.25
Four rows	.50
Lemon Pack	1:00
Neck Shape and Arch with Razor	.30

Any beautician who may be familiar with a person or persons operating without a license and charging cheaper prices is asked to contact Mrs. McNinch and report such persons. This service is asked for the protection of all beauticians.

Mrs. Williams made a report from the picnic committee. The beauticians and Barbers will sponsor a picnic at Monroe, Georgia. All friends, beauticians and barbers are invited.

Johnson S. Young was elected by the members of the League to represent them at the National Beauty Culture Association's meeting to be held in Atlantic City, N. J., in July. Mr. Young was authorized by the League to invite the National Association to meet in Atlanta next year.

Atlanta, Ga. Constitution
June 9, 1940

7,872 Georgians Enrolled in CCC

Georgia has 7,872 boys enrolled in CCC camps throughout the country, who would be eligible for noncombatant military training under provisions of the relief bill recently approved by the senate appropriations committee, Braswell Deen, director of the State Department of Public Welfare, announced yesterday.

At the same time, H. B. Merriam, director of the CCC division which handles enrollments, said there are 21 camps for white boys and five camps for Negroes in Georgia, with an average enrollment of 200 each.

Atlanta, Ga. Constitution
June 12, 1940

Workers Available For Defense Need

Nearly 25,000 skilled workers and almost 40,000 semi-skilled workers are available for employment in Georgia in connection with the national defense program, Labor Commissioner Ben T. Huiet announced yesterday.

Inventory of employment files as of March 30 showed 129,402 registrants, all immediately available. The skilled group included 17,598 white men, 3,871 white women, 3,377 Negro men and 85 Negro women.

Of these 2,138 were carpenters, 1,436 painters, 943 mechanics, 478 bricklayers, 359 machinists, 300 engineers and 42 draftsmen. Huiet said the "most obvious shortage" in skilled workers appeared in the tool and die makers, draftsmen and airplane mechanic classifications.

Coca Cola Fetes 66 Employes

It was a gay time for the sixty-six colored employees of the Atlanta Coca Cola Bottling Company when they assembled at the beautifully decorated Top Hat Club Friday night for the banquet marking the opening of the new plant, while their white fellow workers dined at the Biltmore Hotel.

The new plant which was officially opened Friday night, is located at Spring and Sixth streets.

HAVE SAME MENUS

With their wives, and sweethearts as guests, the Coca Cola workers were sumptuously entertained to the same menu provided by the company for white workers.

The banquet opened with cantaloupe, moved on to half fried chicken, half-tomato salad, white potatoes, string beans and rolls and ended with blocks of ice cream in which neatly engraved were the words, "Coca Cola."

John King, veteran employee of the company, served as chairman of the banquet arrangements, which were carried out in the Yates and Milton Drug Stores.

HAVE VARIOUS DUTIES

With the exception of Sam Mitchell, who is a mechanic in the plant, all of the colored workers serve in various positions from maid to truck loaders and general utility men.

Before and after the banquet the guests danced to the music of Levi Mann and his orchestra, which also played during the eating period.

Big buses delivered the guests to the Top Hat Club and following the banquet picked them up and carried them to the new plant where both white and colored workers in a joint meeting heard the program marking the official opening of the huge new and completely modern structure.

Barber Law Is Approved By Council

Macon Telegraph
OCT 2 1940

Mayor and council last night approved a code of fair competition for Macon barbers and adopted an ordinance requiring rat proofing of all business establishments.

Macon Ga.

Operation of a barbers control act passed several months ago had been postponed pending the outcome of a contest on the legality of a similar Atlanta ordinance before the state supreme court. The act was upheld by the court last week.

The code provides for an 11-hour working day for shops, except on Saturday, when shops may stay open 13 hours. The minimum price of haircuts was set at 35 cents, shaves 20 cents and plain shampoos 35 cents.

Majorite In Accord

The code was submitted by the city barber shop board composed of E. E. Bateman, J. J. Simmons and R. G. Stripling, after having been approved by more than 70 per cent of the city's barbers.

Action on the rat proofing ordinance, an amendment to a previous ordinance affecting only food establishments, had been deferred at a previous meeting "to permit further study by property owners."

Alderman T. T. Carstarphen said he hoped that the measure could be followed soon by an organized campaign to eradicate rats and mice by application of poison ga[s]

OCT 2 1940

Council heard a letter from R. T. and Judge G. Ogden Persons of Forsyth expressing appreciation of the body's action last week in changing the name of the Georgia Casualty building to the Persons building in their honor.

"We love the people in Macon and the city and we shall always hold ourselves in readiness for any service that we might be able to render," the brothers wrote.

In appreciation of the work of Alderman Owings in supervising and promoting the construction of the new municipal golf course, Mayor Charles L. Bowden presented Mr. Owings a dozen golf balls, on behalf of mayor and council

OCT 2 1940

In response Mr. Owings thanked all who had assisted in the undertaking and commended the Junior Chamber of Commerce for its "successful promotion" of the opening tournament Sunday.

Protests of residents of Mercer terrace and Highland avenue against paving of those streets were referred to the streets committee, as was a request by the Webb Coal Company for curbing and gutter drainage in front of their lot on Hazel street.

Negro Skilled Laborers Denied Jobs in Georgia

OCT 26 1940

NEW YORK. — A protest against the discrimination suffered by Negroes in Columbus, Ga., who sought employment in private and government-directed defense projects in Columbus, was launched this week with the advisory council of the National Defense Commission in Washington, by the NAACP.

Washington

The association acted upon complaints received from its Columbus branch. According to the report, Negro bricklayers, carpenters, and painters have been refused clearance for jobs, through the United States Employment Bureau there. The report also pointed out that the William Buchanan Company in Columbus, with defense contracts totalling more than $2,000,000, has refused to employ skilled Negro labor.

OneDollar Per Hour

It is gratifying and encouraging to know that here at Savannah Negro skilled mechanics or tradesmen are getting work ta the air Port at the regular union scale of one dollar pr hour. It is too sel. dom in American life, North or South, that industrial democracy or opportunity becons to the black man. The defense program will mean something tangible to us Negroes of all classes if any large number of us can continue to work for any considerable length of time at such wages.

NOV 3 1940

The economic problem is a very real part of the Negro problem of this country. We do not believe that it is entirely an economic problem but if the Negroes could greatly increase their income this would go a long way toward solving the problem in a much shorter period than it can otherwise be sloved.

Savannah Journal

We fear that this increased income to our skilled workers will not mean as much toward the economic emancipation of our group as it should. There are several reasons for this fear. First of all, we are afraid that many of these skilled workmen will not use their increased income wisely and many of them will save nothing in spite of this boost in wages. As agroup we are too prone to waste our substance if not in ritious living certanly in frivolity which is not only economically unproductive but positively and disgracefully wasteful for a people situated as we are.

Savannah, Ga.

The Journal wishes against hope and advises with humble sincerity that these workmen who are now "making hay while the sun shines" will spend more money with Negro business enterprises, send their children to school, buy moe or thigns of real value..

HARLEM CAB COMPANY

DEC 1 1940

ANNOUNCES NEW PLAN

Door To Door

10c RIDE—Now in Reach of Everyone

Daily Worker

Groups Of Three Or More

Ride Any Reasonable Distance

FOR ONLY 10c EACH

Atlanta, Ga.

For Longer Trips Ask the Driver who will gladly quote prices

IF YOU WANT CAB TO YOURSELF METER RATES WILL APPLY

FOR DETAILS CALL

MA. 4400

"Phone or Hail Any Harlem Cab"

Jobs Found For 3,344 Negroes During 1939

Sharply reflecting improved business conditions in Atlanta and Fulton and DeKalb counties in 1939 the Atlanta District office of the Georgia State Employment Service today reported 7,457 placements of residents of these two counties in gainful employment in private industry during the year representing an increase of 3,279 or over 78.4 percent over the 4,178 jobs found in 1938. Of the total number found jobs, 3,907 or 52.4 percent it was pointed out. This is an increase in permanent placements over the preceding year of 80 percen.

"It is significant of improved conditions," said Alfred F. Scogin, manager, "when we consider that 4,523 of these 7,457 placements made in 1939 were made during the last six months of the year, and that 58 percent of these were permanent."

Significant also is the indication that more people are working by the steady decline in new applications received by the Atlanta office from October through December with 2,642 in October, 2,519 in November and 1,964 in December.

During the year 4,123 white persons were found work and 3,334 colored persons. Some 4,161 men were placed and 3,296 women.

The Atlanta office's report shows that at the end of 1939 34,934 persons in Fulton and DeKalb counties were listed fo remplyment. Of this number 15,498 are white men and 8,947 colored men, 7,605 white women and 3,884 colored women.

There are 1,800 professional and kindred workers, 4,900 sales persons, 3,100 clerical workers, 6,100 skilled craftsmen, 7,800 service workers, 4,200 production workers, and 7,000 unskilled laborers.

"We believe that the continued cooperation of employers in these two counties will make it possible to place at least 15,000 wrkers in gainful employment in private industry during 1940," Scogin declared. "It is their cooperation that will make this possible, we don't create jobs, we merely place qualified applicants before employers."

Negroes Must Create Jobs, Valdostans Told

VALDOSTA, Ga.—(SNS)—Negroes were urged to create their own jobs and design their educational program to teach young people how to open businesses that will mean more employment for their people by the Rev. J. S. Grant, pastor of St. Timothy AME church, in delivering a stirring, though practical Emancipation Day Address here January 1.

The program was held at Monday noon in the Macedonia Baptist church under the auspices of the Valdosta Colored Civic League W. A. Ables was master of ceremonies.

"The Negro," Dr. Grant declard, "is not a dead limb on a tree. He has contributed his toil, blood, talents to make America great in the past and must do so even more in the future."

He urged Negroes to unite and earn the power that lies in the ballot. He told the young people not to think that because their fathers were not able to read and write, because they were not born in a palace, and because they were poor, they could not find their place in the stars. "They must make a way," he asserted.

W. A. Ables was elected president of the league, while the Rev. T. E. Williams was named vice president. Mrs. Roxie Johnson is secretary, and Dr. W. H. Stafford, treasurer.

Others who appeared on the interesting program were the Rev. H. Jackson, the Rev. J. C. Peppers, H. J. Gilmore, Miss Doris Kleckley, Miss Grace Holtzendorf, Miss Helen Steele, Mrs. Ora Lee Richardson, John Beck Rice, and the Rev. T. E. Williams, who introduced the speaker. Music was furnished by the public schools.

LETTERS FROM THE PEOPLE

Think for Yourself and Let Others Enjoy the Privilege to Do So.—Voltaire.

A BARBER ASKS JUSTICE

To the Editor of The Telegraph:

Your recent editorial under the caption "Carry the Barber Into Court" was noted with much interest. I, being a barber, operating my own shop, am in hearty accord with your views in this connection.

It's a pretty state of affairs when the business of running the city and the management of its departments, become so inconsequential that our mayor and council begin to turn their attention toward setting themselves up as an adjunct of the federal department of labor, local tsars of NLRB. To me it smacks of CIO and Frances Perkins, not to mention our good friend Browder.

There is absolutely no legitimate cause for our council enacting an ordinance governing the operation of barber shops. And is there a valid reason why our city fathers should create a local barber board with extraordinary powers for the purpose of fixing the hours during which we may serve our customers and prescribing the price that they shall pay? Again I am reminded of Red Russia and Stalin.

Behind it all stand our beloved mayor and council on the platform of health. They know, or should know, as everyone knows, good health and cleanliness is a pre-requisite of any barber or barber shop. Every shop in the state of Georgia is under the direct supervision of our state and local boards of health and before any man can receive a license to barber he must first pass a rigid physical examination and produce a negative Wasserman report.

As to the deplorable working conditions of the barber, let's take a look. In the first place let me say that there are few, if any, other businesses that offer more opportunity for rest while on duty as does that of the barber.

In this city shops remain open 70 hours weekly, opening and closing week days at 8 a.m. and 7 p.m., Saturdays from 8 a.m. until 11 p.m. Actually, during this 70-hour week, the barber scarcely works 35 hours, the differential being represented by "rest period" in customer waiting.

It appears to me that "we the people" elect our mayor and council for the specific purpose of efficient operation and adjudication of affairs of the municipality, and not that of running the barber shops. I am not versed in matters of law, but I do know that under the constitution of the United States, mayor and council of Macon, Ga., have no legal rights to impose these unfair restrictions on the barber business. Nor is it fair or legal for them to say what compensation the barber shall receive for his labor, nor the length of time in which he has to "make a day."

My barbers are making a living and, I believe, are satisfied. If they were not they would have quit and secured other jobs. None has ever registered a complaint.

Alderman Harry Stewart, who was one of the leaders in placing the barbers in bondage said he was trying to help the barbers. Now it strikes me as being a little peculiar that Mr. Stewart should so suddenly become so terribly concerned over the welfare of the barber.

Now how do you reckon he would feel about introducing an ordinance knocking off 98 hours a week from his own business and advocating the creation of a board to tell him how much he must charge for a tire repair and a gallon of gas?

I believe always in fairness, honesty and the principle of live and let live—but the ordinance allowing the limitation and regimentation of the barber business is neither fair nor honest and is against all principles of Americanism. I suggest repeal in justice to my customer.

Macon. BOB STEPHENS.

No Jobs In Georgia For Skilled Labor

OCT 18 1940

New York—A protest against the discrimination suffered by Negroes in Columbus, Georgia who sought employment in private and Government directed defense projects in Columbus, Georgia, was launched today with the advisory council of the National Defense Commission in Washington, by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

The Association acted upon complaints received from its Columbus, Georgia, branch. According to the report Negro bricklayers, carpenters and painters have been refused clearance for jobs, through the United States Employment Bureau there. The report also pointed out that the Williams Lumber Company in Columbus, with defense contracts totalling more than $2,000,000, has refused to employ skilled Negro labor. Because of its importance as a military center this Georgia town is humming with defense activity, especially in the building industry.

Constitution 1-25-40 Atlanta, Ga.

Constitution Staff Photo —Bill Mason

THIS SCENE WAS REPEATED IN MANY PLACES YESTERDAY AS ATLANTA CLEARED HER STREETS DOWNTOWN OF SNOW.

THE NEGRO BARBER'S SIDE

To the Editor of The Telegraph:

After reading article appearing on front page of the Macon Evening News Thursday regarding the new barber board and setup, my thoughts ran back to the interesting article appearing on the editorial page of your paper some few days ago which expressed the average man's viewpoint as regards the local barber situation in this city. For some time I have refrained from discussing this subject through the press, but since it appears that barbers have elected to enter into the argument, I take my turn.

In the first place I should like to say that it was very unfortunate for us that our good city council saw fit to adopt the new barber ordinance. They, I am sure, acted according to the dictates of their conscience; therefore, we, as colored barbers, hold no grievance against them. It is evident, however, that their decision was prompted mainly through appeals and alarming pictures painted by the proponents, of the "terrible unsanitary conditions" in certain barber shops, rather than the matter of legality. In this connection may I say that I do not argue the legal status of their action, for I am not versed in law. But having had more than twenty-five years of experience in serving white people, I should be in a position to sense the reaction of the average patron. Speaking of sanitation, we have always welcomed inspection, and we are therefore inclined to believe that this unsanitary accusation was only given as a smoke screen.

In order that the public may understand our position, I wish to relate briefly a little history as regards the proposed price raising and our reasons for opposing it: For five years or more, and up to November, 1939, we were shaving for 10 cents and cutting hair for 20 cents. Following this date, we, consisting of four shops, agreed to hike the price of shaves to 15 cents,—a 50 per cent increase. Hair cuts were also hiked to 25 cents,—a 25 per cent increase. Shortly after our own price hike, we were approached by a committee from the union shops suggesting an additional hike, or in other words, a board of control.

The suggestion, if accepted by us, would have meant a 100 per cent hike within a period of less than three months. This, of course, was like unto taking a dose of castor oil, and we could not swallow it. It was then that we protested to city council.

Their decision, of course, is well known to all. Let it be understood that we want all the money we can earn. But it also happens that we can foresee the reaction to our business that would inevitably follow such sudden hikes in prices.

It has been argued by the proponents that the loss of the few customers, because of a hike, would not impair our business as the income would more than offset the loss. Such an argument would perhaps hold good for a short period, but I have not yet been convinced that any business can prosper through the loss of customers. My experience causes me to know that the greater number of customers, the larger the business.

We agree that there are certain groups who would perhaps accept the hike without objections; there are also those who, although able to pay, would likely protest. We do not lose sight of the masses who at times can scarcely pay the present prices. It is this latter group who should have the consideration of someone; hence our protest.

Much has been said about a deliberate effort on the part of the union shops to close all Negro shops that are serving white trade. In dismissing this accusation, we do so for the reason that we know too well the friendly attitude that the southern white man has always shown toward Negro servants. Therefore, it is inconceivable to assume that a small group of people could, with any success, bring about such radical changes.

It now appears that after we have strained ourselves to get up money to pay our city and state licenses, we are forced, through the very act of the city fathers, to raise additional money to employ legal talent to aid us in keeping open our doors.

In conclusion we wish it known that we do not oppose this ordinance because of any ill feeling toward its proponents, but rather for safeguarding our own future business and investments and in the event of an appeal (which is certain) it will be prompted through a desire to hold fast to our customers rather than drive them away.

HERBERT'S SANITARY BARBER SHOP

12 Young Men Interviewed; Jobs In View

Twelve young men who are graduates of some of the nation's leading Negro institutions were in the city yesterday to be interviewed for positions as shop work instructors in the expansion program of the National Youth Administration for Georgia which is to be affected as of the fiscal year beginning July 1, according to a statement released by William H. Shell, Georgia NYA assistant on Negro affairs.

Persons appearing for interviews were Nathaniel C. Buford, Tuskegee Alabama, graduate of Tuskegee Institute; Toussaint L. Crowell, Atlanta, Georgia, graduate of Morehouse College; Robert L. Edwards, Haynesville, Alabama, graduate of Tuskegee Institute; John A. Fountain, Jr., Winston-Salem, North Carolina, graduate of West Virginia State College; Occie J. Gillis, Sylvester, Georgia, graduate of Fort Valley State College; James R Glasco, Aiken, South Carolina graduate of Tuskegee Institute Rufus V. Grigsby, Atlanta, Georgia graduate of Hampton Institute Nathaniel H. Mitchell, Covington Georgia, graduate of Clark University; Charles E. Watermann, Dublin, Georgia, graduate of South Carolina State College; and James M. Ward, Anniston, Alabama graduate of Tuskegee Institute.

The following NYA officials served as interviewers: Emmett R. Rushin, director, division of employment, Chelcie H. Barker, director, division of work projects, William H. Shell, assistant on Negro affairs, and William Earl Inmon, supervisior of employment in the division of Negro affairs. Also present were Mrs. Inez F. Oliveros, director, Savannah district, Lamar Partain, director, Atlanta district, and E. Martin McGehee, director, Macon District. Each district director indicated the desire of using at least one of the applicants as shop instructor in his respective district.

Mr. Shell states that although only two of the applicants will be immediately employed, their outstanding qualities from the standpoint of training and experience warrant the continued interest of the National Youth Administration for Georgia.

The interviews were held at the Butler Street YMCA.

Measure May Harm Chauffeurs

Ordinance Already Passed By Council

Atlanta

Colored taxi-drivers appealed Wednesday to Mayor Hartsfield not to sign an ordinance passed by council Monday which would provide that taxicabs and autos for hire in the city henceforth shall have "white drivers for carrying white passengers and colored drivers for carrying colored passengers.

The protests were made because it was construed that the ordinance would eventually be used to abolish colored chauffeurs and other persons serving in the capacity of driving for white persons.

The ordinance, which originated in police committee, would provide that all owners and operators of taxicabs or autos for hire indicate on the side of the vehicles whether the taxicab shall be used to haul white or Negro passengers. A sign to read "For White Passengers Only" or "For Colored Passengers Only" would be painted under the owner's and operator's sign in letters not less than one inch in height under the ordinance, if signed by the mayor. Applicants for permits to haul passengers for pay would be returned to state on the applications whether the vehicle for hire is to be used for hauling white or colored persons.

Taxicabs or autos for hire could carry but one race of passengers under the council-passed provisions. A fine not to exceed $100 or a sentence not to exceed thirty days, or both, would be the penalty for violating the ordinance.

Terminal Porters To Get Flat Fees

No tipping will be permitted in the Atlanta Terminal station beginning next Friday, officials said yesterday in an announcement which established a flat rate charge for each bag or parcel carried by redcaps.

"Substituting a fixed payment for the customary tipping will serve to place redcaps in the Terminal station on a uniform wage basis," the announcement read.

It also is hoped that the new plan will eliminate controversies which have arisen under recent federal legislation regarding the status of redcaps as employes and the status of tips as compensation.

Atlanta, Ga. Constitution
June 19, 1940

Quota of 22,511 Set For Area's CCC

A quota of 22,511 has been set for the eight states of the fourth corps area for the CCC enlistment period commencing July 1, corps area headquarters reported yesterday.

Of the corps area quota, 19,800 will be white youths, 2,100 Negroes and 611 war veterans. Georgia's quota has been set at 3,639, of whom 3,000 will be white youths, 500 Negroes and 139 war veterans.

Officials have announced that the CCC's strength will be approximately 300,000 at the conclusion of the enlistment period.

ISSUE IN CAMPAIGN FOR NEGRO IS JOBS

SEP 14 1940

For Negroes the big issue of the campaign is work! If war comes, they will fight and die like the rest. If waste overturns the government, they can suffer. But they cannot live without work.

When the Roosevelt administration passed the Wagner Labor act, establishing collective bargaining, it took away Negroes' chance to work because the majorities of organize labor bar them eithr from prejudice of for selfish advantage.

The Consititution in the Bill of Rights guarantees even a single citizen his rights against the majority. But the right to work which is basic for thirteen million citizens of color, the federal government has transferred to groups of citizens who violate that principle of the law and disregard the welfare of the minorities.

If Franklin D. Roosevelt did not foresee the effect on Negros of his labor legislation, he can see it now. He should admit his mistake and correct it, or boldly admit that it is carrying out his purpose.

"What's the Constitution between friends?" is the philosophy of the Roosevelt administration when it empowers labor to do collective bargaining at the same time keeping its constitutions and customs which bar Negroes from working. A new deal for White labor calls for a new deal for Negro labor.

—Kansas City Call

Standard Fee For Red Caps Planned Here

Passengers in the Macon terminal station will pay red caps at the rate of 10 cents per bag or parcel, no matter how small or large, beginning Oct. 1 railroad officials announced yesterday.

The system, already in effect in most terminals over the nation, will replace the tipping system in practice since porters were instituted.

The charge will be made by the terminal company, according to M. B. Smith, Central of Georgia division superintendent and superintendent of the terminal.

Each red cap will collect 10 cents for each parcel, give the passenger a receipt and turn his duplicate receipts to the terminal company along with cash collected.

Tips paid in excess of the regular charge may be retained by the red cap.

The system was devised by the railroads as a means of paying porter's salaries when federal labor authorities ruled that they are railroad employes and must be paid a minimum of 30 cents per hour in compliance with the wage and hour law, Mr. Smith explained.

SEP 27 1940

The procedure received nationwide attention recently when a Cincinnati red cap testified at an Interstate Commerce Commission hearing that Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt underpaid him for carrying seven bags and parcels.

Hugh Johnson Blames New Deal For Exploitation of Redcaps

SEP 28 1940

NEW YORK—Citing the rank injustice of the "10-cents-a-bag" fee ruling imposed on redcaps by the railroad panies, Gen. Hugh S. Johnson, popular writer and former director of the now defunct NRA, in his regular syndicated column of September 21, attacked the Roosevelt Administration and also the Wage-and-Hour Division.

That the new ruling has raised havoc with the earnings of redcaps the country over, was emphasized by Gen. Johnson. His column in full reads:

My friend, Col. Fleming, able administrator of the wage-and-hour law, has written me calling me on a recent column which discussed the trouncing red-cap porters got when the new rule of "10-cents-a-bag" went into effect.

If you want to have your bags carried when you get off the train, you must pay the porters at least 10 cents each. The porter accounts for all this to the railroad company. If, at the end of the week, the total does not equal the minimum wage required by the law, the railroad must make up the difference.

As my column explained, the net result has been a serious slash in red-caps' earnings. My column put the loss at between 10 and 25 per cent. That brought a storm of letters and verbal protests from red-caps. They say the loss is "nearer 40 per cent."

Col. Fleming does not dispute all this, but objects to my blaming the Wage-and-Hour Division for this result. He says that the railroads and not his administration "devised" the system. Mebbe so, Phillip, but until you began to "administer" there wasn't any such system, and now there is.

"The device," writes Col. Fleming, "is purely the work of the railroads and their terminal companies. The Wage-and-Hour Division ruled that tips were not wages and required the red-caps' employes to pay them the statutory minimum wage, 30 cents an hour. Several suits had been filed both by the division and the red-cap unions. To compel conformation with the Fair Labor Standards Act, the railroads inaugurated the 10-cent plan and, as you say, make up any discrepancy in income at the end of the week. Our lawyers advise us that by thus insuring the payment of the minimum wage, the railroads are meeting all the requirement of the law, so far as the jurisdiction of the Wage-and-Hour Division is concerned. . . . There appears to be nothing we can do about it legally and their union officials understand our position."

Mebbe so again, but this is as contradictory a paragraph as I have seen. If "tips were not wages" and that Wage-and-Hour ruling produced all this grief for the porters, how do they suddenly become wages "meeting all the requirements of the law" merely because the railroad company grabs them out of the porters' hands and gives part of them back again? The Wage-and-Hour Division informs me that in some cases the railroads grab the entire "take" and refund only 30 cents an hour—a process which distorts a "minimum" wage law into a maximum wage law. As a matter of fact, it is the exception rather than the rule that there is any "discrepancy" to make up. Usually there is a surplus to grab. The whole business is chicken-feed chiseling.

* * * *

I can't believe that there is "nothing we can do about it legally." One thing to do about it is to carry the ruling that "tips were not wages" thru to its logical conclusion that they do not become wages after the railroad has hi-jacked them out of the porter and paid part of them back again. When I tip a porter, I am making a gift or payment to him—not to the railroad company, which has no more right to take it away from him than it would have to take any of his other property—his pants, for example.

Maybe "their union officials understand our position," but that should not be enough for the Wage-and-Hour Division. Porters' unions are not very strong. It is a joke, for example, to talk about maximum hours for dining-car employes and Pullman porters. They do not come under Col. Fleming's administration, but frequently they work 60 hours a week without overtime. What is the answer? The answer is that they are Negroes, and so are many of the red-caps. The unions are afraid to call their souls their own.

This Administration, which claims to have done so much for both labor and the Negro race, should bestir itself in this direction, at least from now until election. It is an unfair and even an oppressive exploitation of a helpless class.

Deaf Mute Overcomes Her Handicaps; Ace Saleswoman

Leader moved 4-12-40 Sullivan, Jan

Verneda Wells Tops Record Of All Other Fellow Workers

CHICAGO—(ANP)—Out of Chicago's great Southside, where many persons have been forced to accept relief because of economic conditions and lack of opportunity comes a story of courage and determination which is inspiring. It is the story of a young colored girl, Verneda Wells, who although unable to speak or hear, is making a success of one of the most difficult, yet one of the most fascinating jobs—selling.

A saleswoman for a cosmetic company, Miss Kells, 24, has risen in the space of four years to the position of ace salesperson, topping the sales of all her fellow workers. Conquering the double disadvantage of deafness and inability to speak, her story is one of individual triumph over obstacles.

Formerly a $5 a week factory employe, Miss Wells came to the Fuller Products company in 1938, beginning a house to house canvass of their products with pencil and pad in hand to talk for her. Making remarkable progress in her new work, she soon had more than tripled her factory wages.

Suffering deafness and dumbness as the result of a faulty tonsil operation at the age of five, she received her early education at the Illinois School for the Deaf and later finished the Ephpheta School for the Deaf. Entirely independent now, Miss Wells keeps house for herself, travels and leads a more fully rounded life than many normal persons.

The company, which gave Miss Wells her chance, manufactures cosmetics and other products.

She Overcomes Her Handicaps

Miss Verneda Wells, who though deaf and dumb, earns an independent living as a saleswoman earning more than $100 a month. Her life is an inspiration of individual triumph over seemingly insurmountable obstacles. (ANP)

Daily World 4-12-40

Says Railroads Are Making Dupes Of The Public In Fight Against Newly Organized Red Caps Union

CHICAGO, Ill. — "A possibility loomed this week that the latest attempt of the railroads to smash the red caps union might prove a boomerang and call down the condemnation of the public upon the nation's carriers," Willard S. Townsend, president of the International Brotherhood of Red Caps, announced this week.

Age 4-6-40

"In a last desperate effort to strike back at the Union which has been waging an unceasing battle to improve the working conditions of red caps, the Illinois Central Railroad, this week saddled a charge of 10 cents upon the public for each piece of luggage handled by a red cap," he said.

New York, N.Y.

"The money collected by the red caps," he said, "will not be retained by them but will be turned over to the railroads which under this plan are to pay the porters 30 cents an hour minimum required by the Wages and Hours Law. This means, it was pointed out by union officials, this week, that with increased revenue, the railroads will pay the porters an average of $12 per week. This is less than half the wage the railroads pay to other employees performing similar work. For example, the check-room attendants, all of whom are white, at the Illinois Central Station in Chicago receive five dollars a day for a five-day week.

"The statement that under this plan the travellers are exploited by the railroads is based on a decision handed down by the United States District Court of California, that money paid for tickets includes handling of luggage".

Willard S. Townsend, president of the Union, pointed out in this connection that the plan is an attempt on the part of the railroads to escape the responsibility of paying the red caps to which they are being forced by union action. Although the purchase of a railroad ticket entitled the passenger to this service, the railroads are now charging an additional fee which the passenger must pay.

In the final analysis, Mr. Townsend said, this means an increase in railroad rates which should first have been determined by the Interstate Commerce Commission, "It virtually amounts," he said "to the payment by the general public of the red caps salaries. It might be of interest to the public that the nation's railroads pay annually in wages $1,700,000,000 much of which comes from public funds obtained as loans through the Reconstruction Finance Corporation".

"Were all red caps placed on the pay basis, the railroads estimate that the cost to the roads would not exceed $4,000,000 annually, which is but a drop in the payroll bucket compared to what is now being paid out in wages. As estimated the roads will realize approximately $9,000,000 annually from the public through this new plan, the legality of which is doubtful".

Union officials stated that any change of working conditions would, under this procedure, be in violation of a contract between the company and the Union.

Red Caps Win First Round in $3,000,000 Suit

New American

4-13-40 Baltimore, Md.

CHICAGO.—Red caps won the first legal round in their $3,000,000 wage recovery suit this week, when Judge Philip Sullivan of the U.S. District Court denied a motion by railroad attorneys to dismiss the case.

Judge Sullivan gave the railroads thirty days to prepare defense.

The suit was filed in November, 1939 by the United Transport Service Employees' Union against the New York Central, Pennsylvania Railroad, Illinois Central, Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific, Western Indiana, Chicago and North Western and the Southern Railroad.

Federal Law Cited

The companies are charged with violation of the Fair Labor Standards Act and failure to pay the 25 to 30-cent-an-hour minimum prescribed by the act.

Filed in behalf of 1,800 red cap employees, the suit seeks back wages since October 24, 1938, and double indemnity for damages.

Attorneys for the railroads sought to have the case dismissed on an alleged technical violation of Federal legal procedure and a denial of indebtedness.

Overcomes Handicaps; 'Tops' As Saleswoman

24-Year-Old Verneda Wells Is Deaf and Dumb, but She's the Best in Her Field.

CHICAGO, Apr. 11. (ANP) —Out of Chicago's great Southside, where many persons have been forced to accept relief because of economic conditions and lack of opportunity, comes a story of courage and determination which is inspiring. It is the story of a young colored girl, Verneda Wells, who although unable to speak or hear, is making a success of one of the most difficult, yet one of the most fascinating jobs—selling.

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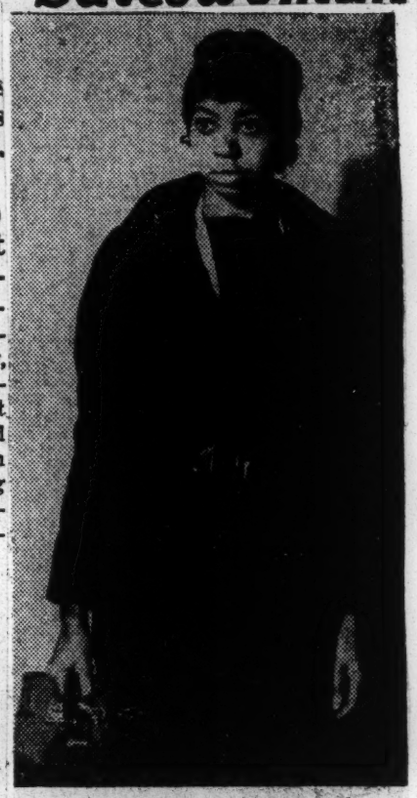

VERNEDA WELLS

Pepsi-Cola Co. Promotion Man To Visit Chi.

Herman T. Smith, special sales promotion man for the Pepsi-Cola company and former newspaperman, is expected to visit Chicago August 11 and make the official award of the first prize check of $70 in the Good Samaritan campaign, that is to go to the leading church in the July race now in progress among the churches of Chicago.

Local authorities of the Pepsi-Cola made these steps known this week—and point with pride to the progress Mr. Smith has made since his taking the new job given him by Pepsi-Cola last March.

This is the first time any Negro has held such a position for any nationally advertised product. And, it is one of the most important positions held by any Negro in any private industry today.

OPTICAL FIRM QUSTS NEGRO AS MANAGER

Chicagoans Aroused Over Replacement of Colored Man by White

NOV 29 1940

CHICAGO. — (ANP) — Chicagoans were aroused this week over the sudden ousting of Dr. Sage P. Brown, manager of the South Parkway branch store of the Dr. Rithoiz Optical company, and his replacement by a young Jewish graduate in optometry.

Dr. Brown was the lone Negro manager in the company's chain of stores throughout, Chicago Illinois Ohio Indiana Tennessee Pennsylvania Alabama and Georgia. The firm deals mainly in eye glasses. For seven and a half years, Dr. Brown was head of the Southside branch. When he reported Monday for work he was told that his services were no longer required.

He says that when he took over the store in 1933 the monthly gross income averaged around $500. Since then it has gone up to an average of $1000 monthly with one peak week of $1600. Virtually all the patrons are colored.

The company previously had had trouble with the National Labor Relations board and the Chicago Better Business bureau. It has refused thus far to permit uinonization of employees according to the former manager.

Dr. Brown, a graduate of Lincoln univeristy Pennsylvania and of the Northern College of Optometry in 1930, plans to open his own office here in Chicago.

Survey Reveals 100,000 Negroes Jobless In Chi.

CHICAGO, (ANP).—A study of unemployment made by the Hyde Park-Kenwood Council of Churches, last Thursday revealed more than half the city's 200,000 Negroes are jobless. The study, made by Dr. Fred Eastman of the Chicago Theological Seminary, revealed serious social and economic conditions among Chicago's colored citizens, after a careful checkup of facts and figures.

According to the investigation, race discrimination is on the increase, and employment for Negroes is diminishing rapidly. Of the 200,000 Negroes living in Chicago, "75,000 are receiving direct relief while 20,000 more on the WPA projects," stated the study.

About 13,000 of the Negroes employed work in steel, farm implement, packing and Pullman industries. Ten thousand to 12,000 more labor as laundrists, garage assistants, and porters and waiters, the average for which is $18 or less per week.

Red Cap Tipping to Be Abolished for 10 Cent Fee

(Special to The Times-Picayune)

Chicago, March 20.—"Tipping the red cap" is to be abolished April 1 by the Illinois Central System in Chicago in favor of a flat service charge of 10 cents a bag, it was announced today.

The innovation was explained, as necessary because of the fair labor standards (wages and hours act).

Under the act the red caps must receive a minimum wage of $14.40 a week. They have been required to report their tips and the railroad has been making up the balance, if any.

STUDY OF UNEMPLOYMENT REVEALS 75,000 ON DIRECT RELIEF; 20,000 WITH WPA

Council of Churches Investigator Reports Opportunities Diminishing With Discrimination on Increase

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About 13,000 of the Negroes employed work in steel, farm implement, packing and Pullman industries. Ten thousand to 12,000 more labor as laundrists, garage assistants, and porters and waiters, the average for which is $18 or less per week.

"In general, the opportunities for employment of Negroes seem to be diminishing. They have to struggle against race discrimination. They are given the hardest and most dangerous jobs, receive the lowest wages and are most likely to be dismissed in times of slackness," climaxed the report.

In conclusion, Dr. Eastman stressed unemployment as a vital concern of churches and synagogues as character-building institutions. "Joblessness tends to destroy character, creates bitterness, resentment, disintegrates families and undermines personal and moral integrity as well as health," he said.

Palmer House Waiters Get Wage Increase

Chicago Waiters' Union Sign Wage Agreement With Hostelry

1-11-40

CHICAGO, Jan. (ANP)—Last Saturday, a wage agreement was signed between the Federated Hotel Waiters Union, Local 356, and the Palmer House here, for all the colored captains, waiters and bus boys.

The agreement was negotiated by Henry C. Roberts, president and Hugh R. Jackson, secretary-treasurer of Local 356 with the assistance of Louis Romano, president, and James Crowley, secretary-treasurer of the Chicago local joint executive board.

The features of the agreement are: closed shop, 9 hour-day, overtime, senlority, vacations with pay and an increase in wages amounting to approximately $15,000 for the 229 employees. The agreement is self-renewing at the expiration of 18 months.

About 229 regular waiters and bus boys and 150 banquet waiters profit by the agreement.

The Economic Plight Of The Chicago Negro

Employment Opportunity Diminishing As Thousands Barely Exist On Relief; A Confused, Tragic Condidions Of Affairs

By EMMETT J. SCOTT

WASHINGTON, D. C.—"More than half of the Chicago Negro population is jobless," is the conclusion announced by the Hyde Park-Kenwood Council of Churches of the city after a survey conducted under its auspices.

The facts revealed indicate a shameless, disgraceful condition of affairs in America's second largest city. The study was made by Dr. Fred Eastman of the Chicago Theological Seminary.

The facts and figures so far revealed expose in a startling way one of the most serious social and economic situations in the country. The The tragedy of it is that—probably in most of the large industrialized cities of the nation.

According to the investigation, consitions are becoming worse, with opportunities for the employment of Negroes diminishing. The Report also reveals that race discrimination is on the increase, and that approximately 115,000 or 57 per cent of the 200,000 or more Negroes on the south side of Chicago are unemployed. Of these about 75,000 are receiving direct relief, 20,000 or more receive their means of existence thru WPA projects. More than one-third of the young people 15 to 24 years old are jobless.

Employed Negroes number 38,00. of whom 12,000 to 14,000 are hired by the steel, farm implement, packing and Pullman car industries. The weekly wake of this group runs $25 to $30.

From 10,000 to 12,000 Negroes work as porters, garage helpers, car washers, laborers and laundry emplayees. Aveage pay is $18 or less. Between 5,000 and 6,000 women have domestic jobs averaging $7 weekly each.

About 2,500 have independent businesses, owners averaging $30 a week, employees $15. Approximately 3,000 are in the professional class, with weekly earnings up to $50.

In general, the opportunities for employment of Negroes seem to be diminishing. They have to struggle against much race discrimination.

They are gipen the hardest and most dangerous jobs, receive the lowest wages and are most likely to be dismissed in times of slackness.

What mainly is the Cause of and Remedy for such conditions? The cause is to be found in the general inefficiency and breakdown of the City administration, the Kelly-Nash machine which has used destitution and distress as a political leverage in debasing the people, while the Federal Govrenment keeps heat on industry thereby preventing erpansion and the creation of jobs for those willing and eager to work.

ReRlief as administered on the south side, Chicago, where these 200,00 colored people mainly reside has long been a scandal setting a new low in the history of American politics.

Similarly, Democratic machines in Philadelphia and throughout Pennsylvania, Kansas City, St. Louis, and other parts of Missouri, Massachusetts, Kentucky and dozens of other states have mixed politics with relief, keeping unfortunate people on relief that they more readily may be subejct to political pressure and vassalage, coercion adn general intimidation.

The RRemedy: More efficiency in City administration, the end of exploitation of persons in need, an honest, sincere effort by City administrations to actively see to it that no part of he Ciy's populaion is discriminated against in securing

that proportionate share of current employment to the end that the plight of the Negro population of Cricago, may not permanently become the fixed status of all underprivileged groups of American cities.

Colored voters in the north who suffer most from these conditions, by effective organization and under the direction of unselfish leaders, have it in their power to change this situation. Relief offers no permanent solution of our economic plight. The present National Administration has dismally failed to solve the problems of unemployment after seven years of trial and failure. With jobless thousands still awaiting some amelioration of their suffering, it is all too evident that the New Deal cannot grapple with this problem which has taxed all of its ingenuity, and cost billions of dollars.

The political change already forecast cannot come too soon to those wh are victims of present-day Federal futility, waste and extravagance, As Senator Taft recentlp remarked, "The present administration will never bring order from this confusion—it is tim. to clean house."

RED CAPS' UNION APPROVES PLAN TO ABOLISH TIPS

The Illinois Central railroad's plan to abolish red cap tipping and begin paying the porters wages on April 1 was approved yesterday by the United Transport Service Employés of America, a union to which many of the red caps belong.

Spokesmen for the union, declared, however, that the company should bear the entire cost of paying the porters 30 cents an hour instead of shifting this cost to the public. Under the new plan passengers will pay a fee of 10 cents for each item of baggage handled by porters.

The union maintained that a California federal court had ruled that when passengers paid for a ticket they also paid for the handling of luggage. When the plan was announced, several porters protested that they would lose money by being paid in wages instead of tips.

RED CAP RETIRES AFTER 39 YEARS

After 39 years of active service as a Red Cap at the Illinois Central railroad station, Sandy W. Trice, 4536 Calumet avenue, retired last week and will now enjoy life on a pension he is to receive from the railroad company. His resignation was marked by congratulations from officials and fellow workers. Photo shows E. M. Claypool saying good-bye.—Gushiniere photo.

Deny Motion To Dismiss Case

CHICAGO—(ANP)—The United Transport Service Employes of America won the first legal round in the $3,000,000 wage recovery suit this week when Federal Judge Philip Sullivan of the U. S. District court denied a motion to dismiss the case made by attorneys for the railroads. Judge Sullivan gave the railroads 30 days to prepare defense.

The suit, filed in November 3 1939, by the union against the New York Central; Pennsylvania railroad, Illincis Central; Chicago Rock Island and Pacific; Western Indiana; Chicago and North Western and the Southern railroad, charges the companies with violation of the Fair Labor Standards act and failure to pay the 25 to 30 cent an hour minimum prescribed by the act.

Filed in behalf of 1,800 red cap employes, the suit seek back wages since October 28, 1938, and double idemnity for damages.

Attorney for the railroads scught to have the case dismissed on an alleged technical violation of federal legal procedure and a denial of indebtedness.

Leon M. Despress, attorney for the union, presented argument dealing with the right to institute a representative suit in behalf of all red caps similarly situated.

Postal Employees Have Impressive Installation Rites

NOV 10 1940

By PERCY R. HINES

Impressive and dignified ceremonies Sunday afternoon, Nov 3, at the Indiana Avenue Methodist church, 5600 So. Indiana avenue, featured the installation of Ashby B. Carter, 5537 Wabash avenue, as president of the Chicago Branch of the National Alliance of Postal Employees for the next twelve months.

With O. Grady Gregory, National Welfare committeeman, serving as master of ceremonies, the work of the organization during the past year was reviewed and an outline for the most progressive program of welfare, civic and legislative activity was adopted for the year 1941. The National Welfare Director of the organization, G. N. T. Gray, of Washington, D. C., spoke upon the nation-wide activities of the Alliance. Congressman Raymond S. McKeough of the Second Illinois District, talked in connection with civil service reform measure proposed for more justice in the government service. Postmaster Ernest J. Kruetgen of Chicago extended congratulations and good wishes to the body by letter. The cooperation of the Illinois State Conference of the National Negro Congress was pledged by Ishmael P. Flory. Mrs. Marie M. Gray, president of the National Women's Auxiliary of the N. A. P. E., was here from Indianapolis, Ind., and spoke for the ladies.

Other participants were: William A. Shepherd, retiring president; George R. Arthur, executive secretary of the Wabash Avenue Branch, Y. M. C. A.; Rev. D. DeWitt Turpeau, Jr., minister of the Indiana Avenue Methodist church; George J. Wachowski, president of the Chicago Post Office Clerks' Union; Castine A. Davis, editor of The Voice, official organ of the Chicago Branch, N. A. P. E.; Edward Gibson, financial secretary of the Chicago Branch of the National Association of Post Office and Railway Mail Service Laborers; Irwin E. Klass, secretary of the Chicago Post Office Clerks Union; Percy R. Hines, president of the Chicago-Tuskegee club; Rev. H. T. Green, assistant pastor of Indiana Avenue Methodist church; and O. Grady Gregory, secretary-treasurer, District Seven, N. A. P. E., comprising the states of Illinois, Missouri, Iowa and Minnesota. John N. Crawford was presented a gold medal for securing the largest number of members during the past year. Retiring President Shepherd presented the medal in behalf of the organization.

Other officers who also took the oath of the assemblage as O. Grady Gregory administred it are East Eubanks, 212 East 60th street, first vice president; Ishmael Madison, 6421 Langley avenue, second vice president; Squire Bates, Jr., 4624 Evans avenue, third vice president; John H. Scott, 4850 Forestville avenue, fourth vice president; James J. S. Keys, 220 East 44th street, recording secretary; Howard G. Moore, 6133 Indiana avenue, corresponding secretary; and John N. Crawford, 3110 Eberhart avenue, treasurer.

President Carter announced the next regular assembly of the organization for Sunday, December 1, at 3 p. m., at the Y. W. C. A., 4559 South Parkway. The annual Christmas party of the organization was announced for the night of December 25th, at Bacon's Casino, 49th street and Wabash avenue, under the direction of Norval E. Perkins, 6347 Eberhart avenue.

A RED CAP WIFE PROTESTS.

Chicago, Nov. 5.—I've read various views on the change the red caps had to accept because of this 10 cent a bag business. My husband is a red cap, and where he used to make at least a livable salary he now averages $12.00 a week. We rent a small home and have the same bills to pay as formerly, but I can tell you we are failing behind instead of getting ahead.

RED CAP WIFE.

RED CAPS' FIGHT WITH RAILROADS NEARING CLIMAX

$5,000,000 Suit Looms as Largest In Labor History

Tribune 6/6/40 Washington, DC

CHICAGO — Gaining tremendous impetus and encouragement from a number of preliminary decisions handed down within recent months, the legal staff of the United Transport Service Employees of America, this week, entered into the final preparatory stages for the next big legal push in the union's civil proceedings against a number of railroad companies.

Proceedings, in which the stakes include a possible cash avalanche of $5,000,000 or more for 75 per cent of the nation's red caps, and which not only has become the largest wage recovery suit under the Wage and Hour Law, but by far the largest suit ever filed by any labor organization in the turbulent history of American trade unionism.

George Hayes on Staff

Composed of a number of America's foremost Negro and white attorneys, the nine-man emergency legal staff of the U.T.S.E.A. is headed by Leon M. Despres of Chicago and George E. C. Hayes of Washington ,D.C.

Mr. Despres is a former trial examiner for the National Labor Relations Board, law instructor at the University of Chicago, and the country's outstanding authority in the field of labor law.

Mr. Hayes is a member of the well-known Washington law firm of Cobb, Howard and Hayes, general counsel for Howard University, and has been favorably mentioned for a judgeship in the District of Columbia.

Previous preliminary decisions have been handed down in the U.S. District Courts at Chicago and Dallas, Texas. The Chicago court has ruled that a representative suit can be filed in behalf of employees and others similarly situated in conformity with Section 16(b) of the Fair Labor Standards Act, and that the employees have the right to designate representatives to file in their behalf.

The Dallas court has ruled that tips do not constitute wages, and that "if the Congress, familiar as it is with tipping, meant for tips to be included in wages, the law would have so provdied."

The court ordered the payment of back wages, and recently denied a motion of the railroad company for a new trial on the grounds that no basis existed for a new trial. In this particular, the railroads filed notice of appeal to the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

Recently a dual A.F. of L. "splinter" organization of red caps in Philadelphia, headed by A. J. McGhee, an expelled vice-president of the U.T.S.E.A., filed an independent suit in the District Court of Philadelphia. The court judiciously set this case aside in order that the legal way may be cleared for the larger and more representative suit of the U.T.S.E.A.

Attempt to Agree

In order to facilitate the proceedings, attorneys for the U.T.S.E.A. have attempted to arrive at an agreed statement of facts in the case with attorneys for the railroads.

Through this process, it is hoped to eliminate all extraneous points and prepare for the consideration of only those particular legal points where wide disagreement exists.

Added to this, U.T.S.E.A. attorneys are beginning to take written sworn testimony of all witnesses who will appear at the proceedings and the preparation of various legal exhibits to support the contention of the union.

It is probable that the case will be set for early September, the beginning of the new fall calendar of the U.S. District Court.

Negro Youth New Manager of Kroger Store

Bee 6/20/40 Chicago, Ill.

Ernest Jackson assumed the management of the Kroger Grocery store at 3945 S. Vincennes Avenue Monday morning, thereby becoming the first Negro to be employed in that capacity by the Kroger Grocery and Baking company in Chicago. This appointment came after several weeks of conferences between officials of the company and the Industrial Department of the Chicago Urban League.

Jackson, who is only 25, was graduated from high school in 1935. He ha worked as clerk at Kroger's 3 years.

A young 17 year old lad who will finish high school next year is an expert in wielding a razor. It so happens that his father is a barber and he is following in the footsteps of his dad by taking the training at a barber college that will equip him for this occupation. As an observer of many of our youth, we think this is phenomenal, because very few boys choose the same vocation as their father. Too, very few barbers ever graduate from high school—most of them have a meagre education. This accounts for the fact that the barbering profession has made very little fundamental progress in the last 75 years. The father of this lad has a basement shop but we expect some day that this youngster will be able to project the business founded by his father far beyond its present stage of development.

Negroes to Share In Jobs On New Chicago Transits

Journal & Guide 6-8-40 Norfolk, Va.

CHICAGO, Ill.—(ANP)—A group of Chicago colored leaders were assured Monday that a clause would be inserted in the proposed new traction ordinance to guard against discrimination of Negroes as employes of the subway now in process of construction.

Indicating that Chicago's 300,000 Negroes would oppose the ordinance unless the anti-discrimination clause was included, Atty. Oscar Brown, chairman of the Chicago Negro Chamber of Commerce, presented city officials with a petition to this effect signed by 50,000 voters.

Jobs Near Peak, But Negroes Still Crowding Relief Rolls

DEC 24 1940

By EDWINNA HARLESTON

CHICAGO.—(ANP)—Employment in this section is now within 11,000 workers of the all-time employment peak, but employment of Negroes in the Chicago area embracing several counties in Illinois and an adjoining Indiana county.

Chicago, an industrial center, and Illinois, an agricultural and mining state, combine to furnish a reliable barometer for the situation of the United States as a whole. Much of the upswing in employment is a result of the national defense program and the wartime orders from Great Britain.

Taken at its face value, this picture of the employment situation seems bright, and full of promise for "better things to come," but an analysis shows that the Negro is not befiting by the change and that his status as a heavy contributor to the relief rolls remains the same.

In the first place, the relief and WPA rolls have not supplied many of the persons now being employed industrially. And those who do go into private industry are being replaced on the relief rolls by persons who have been here for years, and are now forced to apply for relief. It is equally true, probably, that many ill and otherwise helpless persons have crowded here from southern states and gotton on relief.

The tragedy of the situation is that only 40 percent of the Negro reliefers are employable. And of those who can work, industry is failing to employ them, for according to Chicago relief commissioner Leo M. Lyons, "Many persons whom the administration classifies as 'employable' are not acceptable to industry." He continue, "Likewise, job opportunities now available are for persons having specialized skills.

The most recent study of relief recipients indicates that more than half of those classed as "employable" are unskilled laborers." Latest figures show that 60 percent of Chicago's Negroes are on relief. Even more startling is the fact that while Negroes form only eight percent of the total population, they form 40 percent of the number of persons on relief.

Every Third Bricklayer To Be Negro

Agreement to Increase Quota of Colored Workers Follow Protest of Brick Masons Brotherhood Club

Call 4-5-40
Kansas City, Kansas

CHICAGO.—(ANP)—Last Wednesday following a protest by members of the Brick Masons' Brotherhood Club that they were being given the "run around," and that more Negro bricklayers should be given work on the Ida B. Wells Homes, representatives of the various groups concerned met at the site office of the supervising architects in an effort to settle the controversy.

The meeting was called by Robert R. Taylor, vice chairman of the Chicago Housing Authority and sole colored member of that body. Among those attending the conference were: J. William Wade, representative of the South Park Housing Architects and general superintendent of the project; H. L. Small, U. S. Housing Authority Construction Adviser; Lemuel McDougall, widely known colored architect and assistant superintendent of the project; Wm. Covington, Joseph F. Hicks and Duke Hodges, representing the Brotherhood; A. L. Foster, executive secretary of the Chicago Urban League who represented a citizens' committee and several others.

The John B. Kelly company is the brick masonry subcontractor in charge of that work on the project and the firm was represented at the meeting by John Walsh, superintendent and T. F. Costello assistant superintendent.

After an hour's discussion, in which all angles of the labor question—both skilled and unskilled—were considered, it was agreed that in future, of every three bricklayers employed, one will be a Negro. Officials of the Kelly firm pointed out that at present they are employing 20 percent Negro skilled labor (bricklayers) and 47 percent unskilled or common labor.

The colored bricklayers, all Union men, earn $68.00 for a five-day, 40-hour week, the prevailing wage scale for that trade. Unskilled, or common laborers also Union men, are paid at the rate of $1.02 1-2 an hour, or $41.00 for a 40-hour week.

Kelly company officials explained that 9 of every 30 bricklayers now working are colored, and that nearly half of the common laborers are colored. With the latter quota maintained, and the colored bricklayers' quota increased to the 1-in-3 ratio, as agreed to at the meeting, many more of the Brotherhood's 140 unemployed members will find employment.

A. L. Foster, as head of the local Urban League and an official of the Chicago Council of Negro Organizations, aided the Brotherhood members in presenting their case to the housing officials and the subcontractor's representatives. At the meeting's close, all present appeared satisfied with the new working arrangement.

Housing officials declared that when the sun 'hits both sides of the street," upwards of 1500 men will be working as employes of the general contractors, Thompson-Starrett, Co., or of the 50 or more subcontractors who have construction contract. It was also pointed out that there are about 20 subcontractors, in addition to Thompson-Starrett, now working on the site, and that colored workers skilled and unskilled, are paid nearly $2,000 a day in wages on the big project.

Located at 37th and South Parkway, in the heart of the near Southside district, the Ida B. Wells Homes is being constructed for low-income families by the Chicago Housing Authority. It will have about 1,650 family units and cost about 10,000,000 dollars.

Unprecedented Job Increases Realized By Chicago Colored Workers, Book-Survey Reveals

Jumped From 1 To 110 Per Cent Between 1890 And 1930; Gains In Building Trades, Mail Service

Philadelphia Pa.
Tribune 3-28-40

CHICAGO, March — Employment among Negroes here increased from one to 110 per cent between 1890 and 1930, revealed the 260-page publication of the results of a survey made under the sponsorship of the Julius Rosenwald Fund. Horace Clayton, fellow of the Fund, was co-director of the survey.

Entitled, "Occupational Changes among Negroes in Chicago," and written by Estelle Hill Scott, the study is one of two made on the social and economic conditions of colored people in this city.

The second publication, "The Chicago Negro Community—A Statistical Description," was written by Mary Elaine Ogden and covers 247 pages.

"The great migration which started in 1915 did not stop at the World's War," writes Miss Scott. "Negroes, lured by stories of high wages and better living conditions, continued to pour into the northern cities.

"The Negro population of Chicago increased from 190,000 to 254,000 and the working population from 66,000 to 129,00."

Particularly noticeable for their gain were the heavy industries. As iron moulders, founders, and casters, the proportion of male Negro workers increased from 9 to 26 per cent.

Other Gains

Other gains were noticeable also in the building trades, in the chemical and allied industries, in the clothing industry, in slaughter and packing houses; and among workers in garages, coal yards, lumber yards, laundries, the mail carrying service, and the clergy.

The highest gain, however, was among domestic workers—from 43 to 110 per cent.

"Sixty-two per cent of the Negro women and 25 per cent of the men who entered the field of gainful employment between 1920 and 1930 were in the servant classes," the study says.

Women domestics rose from 10,000 in 1920 to 25,000 in 1930. For men, the increase was from 12,000 to 22,000. The number of all Negro domestic workers increased 110 per cent while the total workers in this labor bracket for all races increased only 70 per cent.

The other study, "The Chicago Negro Community — A Statistical Description," is a report on the physical area in which Chicago Negroes live and a comparison of this area with other areas throughout the city.

Both studies were based on a WPA project survey sponsored by the Chicago Institute for Juvenile Delin-

Red Caps Win $600,000 In Salary Gain

The recommendation for a 36 cent hourly minimum made this week by the Railroad Industry committee of the Wage and Hour Administration, will increase the yearly earnings of the nation's red caps by $600,000 it was stated on Monday by John L. Yancey, secretary-treasurer of the United Transport Service Employees of America.

Defender 5-11-40

Mr. Yancey represented the Transport Service Employees Union at the hearings of the industry committee held recently in Washington to study proposals for a blanket increase over the 30 cent minimum for employees in the railroad industry.

The railroad industry committee is composed of 12 members, representing management, labor and the public. Frank P. Graham, liberal president of the University of North Carolina, is chairman. Charles S. Johnson, professor of sociology at Fisk university, is a member representing the public.

The recommendations of the committee will have to be approved by the Wage and Hour Administrator, Phillip B. Fleming before becoming effective in the industry. This approval is likely, since the committee serves as a cross section of public opinion in the industry.

Red Caps Sign Agreement Pooling And Distributnig All Income They Receive Under 10c Per Bag Charge

CHICAGO, Ill.—Resulting from a new agreement wth the United Transport Service Employees of America, red caps of the Chicago and North Western railroad, this week, instituted a pooling and distribution of all income received under the 10 cent bag charge placed upon passengers by the railroads.

Under the new agreement with the Union, the minimum of 30c. an hour will be paid from the general fund, and the remainder will be distributed equally among all red cap employees on the basis of hours worked. Captains and mailmen were increased to a 40c hourly minimum, which additional 10c is to be paid out of other company reserve. Also under the new agreement, these preferred jobs were bulletined and filled on the basis of seniority.

The first agreement under the new 10c bag charge, union spokesmen stated that the "pooling and distribution" system removed the immediate danger of the railroad company using the 10c bag charge and the 30c minimum to lower income standards. Intensive competition and favortism, an old traditional evil among red caps, has been greatly minimized by the new agreement, union officials also stated.

The agreement, covering stations at Chicago, Evanston, Milwaukee, and Sioux City, was signed by Willard S. Townsend, president; John L. Yancey, secretary-treasurer, and district chairman T. W. Winchester for the Union and M. E. Pangle, vice-president and director of personnel for the company.

HOSIERY INDUSTRY OFFERS EMPLOYMENT FOR YOUTH

——his type predominates in the men's hosiery field.

A study of the hosiery industry with special regard to employment possibilities for young people has been prepared by the National Youth Administration in Indiana and made public this week by NYA Administrator Aubrey Williams.

This is one of a series of occupational and industrial studies prepared by the National Youth Administration under the general supervision of Dr. Mary H. S. Hayes, director of employment, to acquaint young men and young women, teachers, and guidance counselors with employment opportunities and training requirements in the various types of work.

The Indiana study discusses the possible affect the introduction of Nylon products will have on employment possibilities in hosiery mills, and working conditions and job descriptions in the hosiery industry.

With expanding production in the hosiery industry and with normal employment turnover there will continue to be openings for new workers in mills, according to the study.

The greatest demand is for young persons to work as learners in various departments in hosiery mills, according to officials of the Indiana State Employment Service. Requests for high school graduates, persons with good eye-sight, and for some departments, persons who fit certain specifications as to height and weight. The work is on a piece-work basis and speed is a prime requisite, according to the study.

Hosiery workers are subject to the regulations of the wage and hour law. This law sets up a minimum of 32½ cents an hour for seamless workers and 40 cents and hour for full-fashioned workers. Very few mills now make seamless hose for women, although

P. R. R. - Red Caps Sign Agreement

CHICAGO, June 20. (ANP)—An agreement covering the 717 red caps of the far-flung Pennsylvania railroad, was signed last week between the company and the United Transport Service Employees of America. The agreement establishes maximum hours of service, seniority rights, grievance machinery and a basic wage of 39 cents an hour or $3.12 per day for red caps in New York City, and 36 cents an hour or $3.12 per day for red caps in other cities along the system.

With an annual basic wage of approximately $900 in New York City and $830 at other points, the agreement adds over $625,000 to the annual payroll of the Pennsylvania railroad in behalf of red caps. With this agreement signed and in operation, the two largest employers of red caps in the United States are under contract with the United Transport Service Employes union, the other company being the New York Central railroad with 651 red caps. An agreement with this company was signed early in January of this year.

President Willard S. Townsend headed the negotiating committee for the union with the assistance of International Vice-President C. F. Thompson of Philadelphia, General Chairman Elmer F. Traynham of Pittsburgh, and the following district chairmen: Earl Adams of New York City, Harvey Kyle of Harrisburg, and Stephen Wright of Baltimore. Representing the company were the general managers of the four major regions and the vice-president in charge of personnel.

PROMISED SHARE OF SUBWAY JOBS

Petition Signed by 50,000 Chicago Voters Assures 'Anti-Discrimination' Clause

CHICAGO, July 3—(ANP)—A group of Chicago colored leaders were assured Monday that a clause would be inserted in the proposed new traction ordinance to guard against discrimination of Negroes as employes of the subway now in process of construction.

Indicating that Chicago's 300,000 Negroes would oppose the ordinance unless the anti-discrimination clause was included, Attorney Oscar Brown, chairman of the Chicago Negro Chamber of Commerce, presented city officials with a petition to this effect signed by 50,000 voters.

Chattanooga, Tenn. Daily Times
December 28, 1940

2 NEGROES ARE SEEKING 'LOST' TANK CARS HERE

Two Negro representatives from the Chicago office of the United Tank Line company were here yesterday en route to Florida, tracing "lost" tank cars of the company.

Harold W. Brooks and Charles Hochette, who have been doing investigative work for the company for the past ten years, said that they have found about fifty tank cars, parked on railroad sidings in small out-of-the-way places, of which the company had lost trace on their records.

Rejected Race Drivers Now Sought By Lily White Union

Although labor troubles in the city's milk industry continued to tie up distribution throughout the Chicago area this week, commendable cooperation by local police enabled the Lake View Dairy company's South side drivers to forestall a complete drought in this section.

Delivery of milk by Lake View drivers was not, however, accomplished without several skirmishes with strikers and strike sympathizers.

Determination of Lake View's Wabash avenue distributory, 5445 Wabash avenue, to continue work in face of the present crisis came as result of milk drivers' union refusing to accept Race workers into the organization.

Rectifying Efforts Late

Efforts to rectify this affront apparently came too late, for when a delegation of union officials from Local 753, called on Jesse Thornton, president of the Lake View group, Monday, offering a blanket contract, Thornton refused to sign under conditions stipulated.

Negotiations for unionizing Lake View drivers are said, however, to still be pending.

After Thornton's refusal to align with the union factions at Monday's conference things began to happen to Lake View drivers and their products. Early Tuesday a tank truck containing 75,000 pounds of milk was overturned on Wolf road, just outside of Volo, Ill. Another tank was halted near McHenry.

The dairy secured its milk for Tuesday only after a caravan of 12 automobiles loaded with Lake View drivers, went to Momence, Ill., and safely convoyed a truck cargo back to Chicago.

Wednesday morning 100 strike pickets curbed one of the company's trucks at Lake and Leavitt streets and would have overturned the vehicle and assaulted the driver had it not been for Officers Frank Butcher and Oliver Dorigan, who armed with sawed off shot guns held the mob at bay.

The driver, Luther Thornton, 1846 West Lake street, escaped injury. It was later revealed that leaders of the picket gang had attempted to bribe the policemen to leave the scene so they could deal with Thornton and his load.

When threats were voiced against the Lake View company by a trio of white men who called at the company offices late Monday night, the president contacted John Pendergast, chief of Chicago's uniformed police, and asked protection for his drivers.

Sgt. Lawrence J. Lyons of Fifth District police, was immediately assigned the ask of supplying convoys for each Lake View delivery truck on its rounds through the city. For this duty Sgt. Lyons was placed in charge of 21 police squad cars, and up to a late hour this week no casualties or violence had been reported.

The only cloud on the horizon for the dairy company up to Friday, was the conviction of three of its drivers, accused of firing on a police squad which attempted to stop them for questioning.

The defendants were Gerald Owens, 18, of 4511 Vincennes avenue; Edward Wilson, 16, and George Oliver, 18, of 4512 Wabash avenue. Owens and Wilson were sentenced to six monthe each, while Oliver received 30 days.

The youths said they were unaware that the automobile which approached their truck Saturday, was a police car and that the men inside were police officers. The policemen were all in plain clothes at the time.

By PERCY R. HINES

For the first time in the history of the Chicago Post Office Clerks Union, a Negro was elected Trustee, Sunday, May 5th. James J. S. Keys, 220 East 44th Street, was chosen as one of the five executives to serve in this capacity for a term of five years. Keys received nearly 1,000 votes out of the more than 1700 ballots cast. He has been active in the Union for several years and served last year as a delegate to the Illinois State Federation of Labor convention which met in Springfield. Keys also is at present the recording secretary of the Chicago Branch of the National Alliance of Postal Employees.

Win Another Big Post

Another important post won by a Negro in Sunday's election of the Chicago Post Office Clerks Union was that of delegate to the Illinois Federation of Post Office Clerks' convention. Orion N. Page was elected as one of the four representatives to that body which assembles at Freeport, June 6th to 8th. Page also has been active in the Union's affairs for several years, as well as in the Chicago Branch of the National Alliance of Postal Employees. Several years ago he organized the Chicago Council of Federal Organizations which he headed for two years.

It was quite evident in Sunday's election that Negroes hold the balance of power in the Union, for the slate of candidates which included the most Negroes was elected. George J. Wachowski was reelected President, while Irwin E. Klass was returned to the office of Recording-Corresponding Secretary.

500 DRIVERS WALKOUT IN RATES PROTEST

Insurance Bonds Forfeited

Settlement of the taxicab strike which was called Monday at 1 p. m., by President Johnny Patrick of the Bronzeville Chauffeurs club in protest to high rental rates, looms within the next 24 hours, it was disclosed Wednesday evening from authoritative sources.

Thousands of South Siders, who have used these cabs exclusively within the community, have been inconvenienced by the tieup which involved 50 taxicab companies and the 500 drivers employed by them.

Although there have been no reports of violence so far during the strike, it was disclosed that a number of cars, privately owned and used for jitney purposes, have been pressed into service and are operating despite the lack of protection they afford.

Insurance Bonds Forfeited

Insurance company bonds on participating taxicabs have been forfeited pending the settlement of the strike. Those riding in such cabs, therefore, do so at their own risk. Owners, it was also reported face the threat of losing their licenses if a speedy settlement is not obtained.

Although the community has so far evinced negligible interest, many are of the opinion that a wave of public sentiment protesting against the inconvenience which has resulted from the tieup, would have effected a quick ending of the strike.

The lackadasical attitude of representatives entrusted with community interests and in positions to act as mediators in ironing out the difficulties between owners and taxicab drivers, came in for a great deal of criticism.

Drivers walked out Monday noon in protest over cab rentals which it was alleged, had been increased. Operators of the cabs pay, in addition to rentals, for gasoline and oil which it was stated, must be bought from cab owners. They are also responsible for damage done to the cabs.

Trouble began over a 50 cent increase in night rates, and a 25 cent hike for the day drivers, Patrick stated. Drivers had been paying $4.70 a day and $5.70 at night, with $1 added for use of cabs Saturdays, Sunday and holidays.

Although it was not revealed just what steps are being taken to end difficulties, nor whether demands of the drivers have been met, it is expected that the one cab owner holding out early Wednesday would concede and all cabs will be back on the streets Thursday.

Chicago Striking Cab Drivers Hint Graft Expose

CHICAGO.— (ANP) — Intimating that a system of graft exists among Chicago cab owners and is holding up settlement of the cab strike, which has tied up southside transportation for several days, members of the Bronzeville Chauffeurs and Safety club, composed of cab drivers, said this week that if the strike is not settled soon, they will expose underlying conditions.

Charging three cab owners, James Parks, Marvin Hamilton and Bertell Daigre, with holding up settlement of the strike, the drivers promised a story that would "blow the top off" if demands were not met soon. Daigre, president of the Owners' Association, would not make a statement.

The 450 striking drivers went on strike Monday at noon to protest present rental rates which they declare are too high to allow them to earn a living wage. Paying a rate of $4.70 to $7 per day with $1 added for Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, the drivers also must purchase gasoline and oil from the cab owners, and are held for any damage to the cabs.

The Manhattan Mutual Insurance company, which carried bonds on most of the cabs, cancelled the bonds after learning of the strike.

Among the drivers' demands are lowering of the rate to $3 per day and $4 for night, sharing of fines by the owner, and recognition of 12 consecutive hours as a working day and 6 working days, a working week.

RAIL WORKERS PROTEST JIM CROWISM IN A. F. OF L.

Courier
6/15/40
Pittsburgh Pa.

CHICAGO, June 13—(ANP)—Railroad workers in the various American Federation of Labor Unions of the New York Central System this week were called upon to take a stand against Jim Crowism in AFL; against United States participation in World War II, and to work for passage of the Anti-Lynch bill and the anti-poll tax bill.

The workers were asked to support this program at the coming NYC System conventions of the various AFL organizations. Local 570 of the Brotherhood of Firemen and Oilers, led the demand for action and passed resolutions to that effect at its last meeting here. Tony Calhoun is delegate for Local 570 and the resolutions were prepared by Sam McArthur, president; Norwood Brooks, secretary and A. A. Tims, chairman.

Violence Marks 3rd Week Of Taxicab Strike

Bee
6/20/40
Chicago, Ill.

Violence flared this week in the taxicab strike which has been conducted on the southside since June 9, with reports of hijacking of strike-breaking cabs, and one instance in which shots were fired into a taxicab at 35th street and South Parkway Wednesday night.

The BEE issues a warning to citizens to refrain from riding in taxicabs until a settlement has been reached. Efforts to bring about owner-chauffeur reconciliation was seen in the disbanding of the Bronzeville Chauffeur's Safety club, which it was reported has been under investigation by the State's Attorney's office. As a result it was recommended that the Secretary of State revoke the charter of the association.

On Tuesday, it was stated 500 members of the chauffeurs organization were taken into the Packinghouse Workers' Organizing committee, an affiliate of the Congress of Industrial organizations. Wednesday, however, 375 of those who joined CIO bolted the union in anticipation of obtaining a new charter today from the International Brotherhood of Teamsters and Helpers, local No. 727, affiliated with A. F. of L.

Violence In Cab Strike Claims 4 More Victims

NOV 2 1940

Violence in connection with the latest taxicab labor dispute claimed four more victims this week as the striking factions continued to harass drivers who work cabs in spite of the strike called October 17.

The recent walk-out by 400 South side cabbies resulted as the failure of an American Federation of Labor group, Local No. 727, and the Cab Drivers association to reach an agreement on an election in which the chaufteurs could choose between the A.F. of L. and the Congress on Industrial Organization, as their bargaining agency.

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

Drivers who were injured in the recent clashes are Robert Cross, 33, of 330 E. Fifty-ninth street; Madison Lowry, 42, of 73 E. Fifty-sixth street; Jack Jackson, 41. 5619 Prairie avenue, and James Rhodes, 26, of 5239 Prairie avenue.

Cross was slugged about the head and body with an iron bar Sunday night by two men. Cross told police one of the assailants entered the cab at Thirty-eighth and Indiana avenue and ordered him to drive to 500 Bowen avenue. Upon arriving at the address Cross aid another man got into the cab and told him to proceed east. At the next corner, according to Cross, both men jumped out, pulled him from the cab and began beating him.

Ankle Fractured

Lowry sustained bruises and lacerations about the face and arms and a fractured ankle when he was attacked by four men who halted his cab in the Fifty-third block on Prairie avenue, early Friday morning.

Rhodes sustained bruises about the chest and head early Saturday morning when he lost control of his cab and crashed into the curb after a gang of men opened fire on him as he drove past Thirty-first street on Indiana avenue.

Jackson was beaten and kicked out of his cab early Monday by two men at Forty-fifth street and Prairie avenue. The machine was found several hours later abandoned at Fifty-fourth street and Calumet avenue, its upholstery and tires slashed and the windows broken.

Cab officials said that four machines had been set afire, three stolen and at least 50 tires by labor goons since the strike was called.

The strike committee of the International Transport Workers' Union No. 201, CIO voted to stop work when negotiations for an election had completely broken down.

Members of the CIO, numbering more than 400, pointed out that despite the fact that the sub-committee of the City Council recommended that an election be held, both the A. F. of L. and the owners refuse to agree.

B. W. Daigre, president of the Taxi Owners association, states that the owners have nothing to do with the strike. "We have signed a contract with the A. F. of L. and there's nothing else that we can do."

ELEVEN HURT IN COLLISION OF I.C. TRAINS

Chef Cook Suffers Burns; Porters And Waiters Also Injured

The Injured

NATE BUNTON, 359 East 58th street.

CHARLES DAVENPORT, 6246 So. Parkway.

THOMAS DUNBAR, 371 East 58th street.

J. W. HANNAH, 602 East 41st street (waiter).

SIMON HARRIS, no address, (porter).

NATHANIEL HILL, 3906 State street.

JACKSON JOINER, 4357 Michigan avenue.

PERCY McGUINNESS, 3930 State street.

DAVE MIDDLETON, no address available.

CHARLES MITCHELL, 724 Marquette road (porter)

AUSTIN REASON, 3523 Michigan avenue.

ARCOLA, Ill., Jan. 5—(Special) — Eleven Chicagoans, members of the Race and employees of the Illinois Central railroad, were among the 54 persons injured early Monday in a collision between two passenger trains here.

Chief among the injured was Nathaniel Hill, 3906 State street, Chicago, chef cook on the Louisiane. He suffered burns on the head and had to be rushed to the Tuscola hospital

The accident occurred just before dawn with the temperature six degrees above zero, when the Panama Limited plowed into the rear of the Louisiane.

Blame Fog For Wreck

Five all-steel Pullman sleepers on the Louisiane were telescoped in the wreck as were the diner and coal tender of the Panama Limited. Most of the passengers in both trains were asleep at the time. The weather was clear. Earlier reports said it was foggy. The Penama Limited was about two miles behind the second section of the Louisiane.

On the Louisiane's two day coach- near the engine and packed with a holiday crowd, passengers were thrown from their seats. Two of these, Dr. E. H. Webster, a student at Harvard university medical school and Miss Eleanor Reidell, a medical student at the University of Illinois, both of whom had boarded the train at Mattoon, went into immediate action. They hurried to the telescoped sleeping cars and began administering first aid. Fifteen minutes later ambulances, doctors and nurses were on the scene.

Miss Pauline Redmond, former director of social service and the youth departments of the Chicago Urban League, who resigned recently to accept a position as social service worker with the Tice Laboratories big Loop concern. (Photo courtesy Chicago Defender.)

Treatise Tells of Obstacles Faced by Negro Skilled Workers

CHICAGO.—(ANP)—In an interesting treatise on Colored workers, titled "Occupational Changes Among Negroes in Chicago," Estelle Hill Scott, student of occupational trends, tells of the obstacles that beset colored workmen who seek an opportunity to engage in the skilled trades.

The study was released last week by Horace R. Cayton, Rosenwald Fellow and director of the Good Fellowship Community center here, who last year completed a Land-Use survey of Chicago, under Federal sponsorship. The Scott monograph is part of a series of reports by the WPA project for study of the Negro community, sponsored by the Institute for Juvenile Research.

Of interest to Negroes throughout the country because conditions in Chicago are typical of those in other metropolitan areas, Miss Scott's report states that colored women find it even harder to rise to the higher income brackets, than their men. Highlights of her factual report:

"With the abolition of slavery, the Negro gained the right to a wage for labor, but he did not gain the right to choose the work he most desired. In 1910, 73 percent of the Negro workers in the United States were unskilled, compared with 67 percent in 1930.

"In 1910, 88 percent of the Negro female gainful workers in the United States were unskilled. In 1930, the proportion had been reduced only to 81 per cent."

Between 1910-1930, Miss Scott says, the occupational structure, as far as Negroes are concerned, was not materially changed, for while the proportion of unskilled Negro men decreased, that of unskilled colored women increased. She said:

"The proportion of Negroes who were unskilled workers was more than twice as great as that for the foreign-born whites, and SIX times as great as that for native whites."

Says Economic Plight of Chicago Negroes is Acute

Employment Opportunities Diminish as Thousands Eke Out Existence on Relief

By EMMETT J. SCOTT

"More than half of the Chicago Negro population is jobless," is the conclusion announced by the Hyde Park-Kenwood Council of Churches of that city after a survey conducted under its auspices.

The facts revealed indicate a shameless, disgraceful condition of affairs in America's second largest city. The study was made by Dr. Fred Eastman of the Chicago Theological Seminary.

The facts and figures so far revealed expose in a startling way one of the most serious and economic situations in the country. The tragedy of it is that — probably in some less degree, it is the story of the plight of the Negro population in most of the large industrialized cities of the nation.

Conditions Becoming Worse

According to the investigation, conditions are becoming worse, with opportunities for the employment of Negroes diminishing. The report also reveals that race discrimination is on the increase, and that approximately 115,000 or 57 per cent of the 200,000 or more Negroes on the South Side of Chicago are unemployed. Of these about 75,000 are receiving direct relief; 20,000 or more receive their means of existence through WPA projects. More than one-third of the young people 15 to 24 years old are jobless.

Employed Negroes number 38,000, of whom 12,000 to 14,000 are hired by the steel, farm implement, packing and Pullman car industries. The weekly wage of this group runs $25 to $30.

From 10,000 to 12,000 Negroes work as porters, garage helpers, car-washers, laborers and laundry employees. Average pay is $18 or less. Between 5,000 and 6,000 women have domestic jobs averaging $7 weekly each.

About 2,500 have independent businesses, owners averaging $30 a week, employees $15. Approximately 3,000 are in the professional class, with weekly earnings up to $50 a week.

Opportunities Diminish

In general, the opportunities for employment of Negroes seem to be diminishing. They have to struggle against much race discrimination. They are given the hardest and most dangerous jobs receive the lowest wages and are most likely to be dismissed in times of slackness.

What mainly is the cause of and the remedy for such conditions? The cause is to be found in the general inefficiency and breakdown of the city administration, the Kelly-Nash machine which has used destitution and distress as a political leverage in debasing the people, while the Federal Government keeps heat on industry thereby preventing expansion and the creation of jobs for those willing and eager to work.

Relief as administered on the South Side, Chicago, where these 200,000 colored people mainly reside has long been a scandal setting a new low in the history of American politics.

Similarly, Democratic machines

in Philadelphia and throughout Pennsylvania, Kansas City, St. Louis, and other parts of Missouri. Massachusetts, Kentucky and dozens of other states have mixed politics with relief, keeping unfortunate people on relief that they more readily may be subject to political pressure and vassalage, coercion and general intimidation.

Need Efficient Administration

The remedy: More efficiency in city administration, the end of exploitation of persons in need, an honest, sincere effort by city administrations to actively see to it that no part of the city's population is discriminated against in securing that proportionate share of current employment to the end that the plight of the Negro population of Chicago, may not permanently become the fixed status of all underpriviledged groups of American cities.

Colored voters in the North who suffer most from these conditions, by effective organization and under the direction of unselfish leaders, have it in their power to change this situation. Relief offers no permanent solution of our economic plight .

The present national administration has dismally failed to solve the problems of unemployment after seven years of trial and failure With jobless thousands still awaiting some amelioration of their suffering, it is all too evident tha the New Deal cannot grapple wit this problem which has taxed al of its ingenuity, and cost billion of dollars.

The political change already forecast cannot come too soon t those who are victims of present day Federal futility, waste and ex travagance. As Senator Taft re cently remarked. "The present ad ministration will never bring or der from this confusion—it is tim to clean house."

ILLINOIS EMPLOYERS CAN SAVE BY MAKING PAYMENTS AT ONCE

Illinois employers who are subject to the State Unemployment Compensation law can save money by making payments they owe the state for 1939 at once, State Director of Labor, Martin H. Durkin, said this week.

Contributions for the fourth quarter of 1939 were due January 1, the director pointed out. If these contributions and any delinquent payments for earlier quarters in 1939 are not made by January 31, 1940, employers will not be able to get a full 90 per cent credit on their Federal excise taxes.

In addition to losing this credit offset on federal taxes, delinquent employers will be required to pay interest to the state on the money they owe. This interest amounts to one per cent a month on unpaid contributions.

Payments due from employers under the Illinois Unemployment Compensation law are 2 7 per cent of the total pay roll. Under federal laws, employers who are subject to both state and federal Unemployment Compensation laws may deduct the 2.7 per cent paid the state from the 3 per cent tax levied by Chapter IX of the Internal Revenue Code if the state contributions are paid on or before January 31 of the year following the year for which payments are due.

Employers liable under the state law, generally, are those who have had eight or more workers during any day of the calendar year of 1938 or 1939 or who have elected to become subject to the law.

Director Durkin gave the following illustration to show how offset credit works to the advantage of employers who make payments to the state promptly:

"Take, for example, a company employing eight or more workers that is liable under the law and had an annual pay roll of $10,000 in 1939. This company would owe the Illinois Unemployment fund a total of $270 for the year Under Chapter IX of the Revenue Code it also would owe the federal government an excise tax of $300 for the year.

"The company, however, would be permitted to subtract the amount it had paid the state, up to 90 per cent of the amount due the federal government. from its excise tax payment. Ninety per cent of $300 is $270 or exactly the amount due the state.

"If the company paid the state the entire amount on or before January 31, 1940, it would be permitted to deduct the whole $270 from the amount owing to the federal government. As a result it would pay the federal government only $30 instead of $300. Credit for the total 90 per cent cannot be taken, however, unless the payment to the state is made on or before January 31, 1940."

Officials of the Division of Placement and Unemployment Compensation urged employers to make their payments promptly so as to be sure of obtaining this tax saving.

NEGROES IN THE POST OFFICE

A GROUP OF PROMINENT Chicagoans held a conference recently with Postmaster Ernest J. Druetgen of the Windy City to lay before him a bill of particulars pointing out numerous instances in which Negroes in the local postal service have been denied merited advancement and promotion as clerks and carriers, also that Negroes are not being added to the service in the same proportion as other racial groups. The Chicagoans claim that they have lost four foremen and men in supervisory positions in the last ten years, and these men have not been replaced.

There is a similar situation in New York. A veteran employee of the General Post Office here told The Age recently that there had been very few if any, promotions of Negroes in the past few years and that when a Negro employee who is in a supervisory capacity, dies,resigns or is fired he is usually replaced by an employee of some other racial group.

Knowing Postmaster Albert Goldman as we have for a number of years and of his fairness and interest in the Negro, we cannot believe that he is responsible for this policy of the Post Office Department in gradually eliminating the Negro. We are forced to the conclusion that the Postmaster General and some of his Southern executives in Washington are responsible.

Negro leaders in all parts of the country would do well to check on the number of postal employees of their race in the service eight years ago, as compared with those now employed and if our impression is correct that there has been a substantial decrease, the matter should be called to the attention of authorities at Washington.

POSSIBLE FIFTH COLUMN SEEN IN NEGRO JOBLESS

Rabbi Binstock Calls for Aid to Workers.

A potential fifth column or Trojan horse element lies in the unemployed ranks of Chicago's 300,000 Negroes, the majority of whom are now on WPA or on relief, Rabbi Louis Binstock of Temple Sholom said yesterday in greeting the metropolitan Chicago conference on unemployment problems of the Negro, which was held in the Morrison hotel.

"There is more than the lesson of military preparedness to be learned from the present tragic situation in Europe," Dr. Binstock said. "We have seen a democracy turn overnight into a dictatorship. Will we also learn the lesson of industrial preparedness: not to waste our resources in human material? We have relegated the Negro to the kitchen. We should add to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness the right to a job.

Emphasizes Need for Unity.

"We need a united people to preserve democracy. If this group continues dispossessed and denied it constitutes a potential fifth column. Not that it wants to be. It does not seek to hate but is driven to it. We cannot afford this in the crisis of the world today. If we do not control our problems a dictator may come and control us."

H. L. McCarthy, regional director of the Social Security board, said:

"For most workers the idleness of dependency is no holiday. It is a desolate, shameful experience of being unwanted and useless. The unemployed have known real work, often unsatisfactory in its wages and hours, but real in the opportunity it gave them to prove their value to themselves and to their families, to justify their personal existence, to be active, productive members of society. We are attempting to destroy the myth that those who are unemployed—thru no fault of their own—are undesirable members of society."

Part of Nationwide Move.

Lawrence A. Oxley, supervisor of the Negro placement service of the Social Security board, explained that the conference was part of a nationwide effort to alleviate the problem of unemployment. Twenty-seven similar conferences have been held or are to be held. These have led, he said, to permanent commissions on Negro employment in six states, and hope was voiced that many more would be established.

Many factual studies were presented at the conference, as were plans for training and methods of raising the incomes of the Negroes. Wendell E. Green, a member of the civil service commission, welcomed the conference on behalf of Mayor Kelly.

CIVIC LEADERS TO STUDY NEGRO JOBS PROBLEM

Chicago business and civic leaders will discuss the problem of Negro unemployment in a conference in the Morrison hotel. More than one-third of the city's colored population is unemployed and nearly half of the city's relief roll is made up of colored persons.

Among those who will attend the conference are Martin P. Durkin, state director of labor; Edward L. Ryerson, Ald. Earl B. Dickerson [2d], Prof. Paul H. Douglas of the University of Chicago, who is the 5th ward alderman; Edwin R. Embree, president o fthe Julius Rosenwald Fund; Joseph D. Keenan, secretary of the Chicago Federation of Labor, and Victor A. Olander, secretary-treasurer of the Illinois Federation of Labor.

The conference is part of a nationwide drive.

FROM A COLORED MAID.

Chicago, May 24.—In THE TRIBUNE recently Mrs. O. wanted to know what has become of all the "good" colored help. But did Mrs. O. stop to think that the WPA pays living wages and not starvation wages? Some are offering $5 and $6 a week for housework, and they want cooking, serving, cleaning, and laundry. Some offer room and board, and with that the maid must do night work, and watch the kids who have been very trying during the day. There are other races on the WPA besides the Negro, and they get higher wages. I am not on WPA or relief. M. S.

Red Caps Agree To Pooling Of Their Income

Get Minimum 30c Per Hour and Jobs On Seniority Basis

CHICAGO, Ill.—Resulting from a new agreement with the United Transport Service Employees of America, red caps of the Chicago and North Western railroad, this week, instituted a pooling and distribution of all income received under the 10c bag charge placed upon passengers by the railroads.

Under the new agreement with the Union, the minimum of 30c an hour will be paid from the general fund, and the remainder will be distributed equally among all red cap employees on the basis of hours worked. Captains and mailmen were increased to a 40c hourly minimum, which additional 10c is to be paid out of other company reserves. Also under the new agreement, these preferred jobs were bulletined and filled on the basis of seniority.

The first agreement under the new 10c bag charge, union spokesmen stated that the "pooling and distribution" system removed the immediate danger of the railroad company using the 10c bag charge and the 30c minimum to lower income standards. Intensive competition and favoritism, an old traditional evil among red caps, has been greatly minimized by the new agreement, union officials also stated.

The agreement, covering stations at Chicago, Evanston, Milwaukee, and Sioux City, was signed by President Willard S. Townsend, Secretary-Treasurer John L. Yancey and District Chairman T. W. Winchester for the Union and M. E. Pangle, vice-president and director of personnel for the company.

May Throw 8,000 Out Of Work

Measure Viewed As Economic Blow to Race

CHICAGO—(ANP)—Calling upon churches, civic organizations and individuals throughout the nation to join them, the Pullman Porters Benefit association and the Pullman Porters and Maids Protective association have launched a nationwide fight to defeat the bill now pending in congress which would ban the Pullman company from operating any car with a porter-in-charge instead of a conductor.

Rep. Robert Crosser of Ohio, introduced the measure in the lower house and Senator Minton of Indiana introduced a similar bill in the upper house seeking to amend the Interstate Commerce act to make it unlawful for a Pullman car to be operated without a conductor.

The bill is being opposed because it would throw an estimated 8,000 or more Negro porters out of work or else reduce their salaries. Porters-in-charge are paid more than those working under conductors. Since there are no Negro conductors, passage of the measure would be an economic blow against the race, porters say.

FROVES EMBARRASSING

At the same time, the bill is proving embarrassing to the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, according to J. T. Reid, president of the Pulllman Porters and Maids Protective association which claims a membership of more than 3,000 active porters. Mr. Reid states the brotherhood has informed all of its members to refuse in-charge operations.

"The leadership of the brotherhood finds itself confronted with the goal of a brother affiliated in the American Federation of Labor, the Order of Sleeping Car Conductors, which is demanding that congress enact this law prohibiting pullman porters from running in-charge," said Mr. Reid.

"In other words, one A.F.L. affiliate is demanding that the Pullman company be denied the right to move a Pullman car without the services of a Pullman conductor, even though the employe assigned may also be a brother under the banner of the A.F.L."

PROVIDES PENALTY

The measure, known as Senate Bill S 3798 in that branch of congress and as HR 9406 in the lower house, not only makes it imperative that each sleeping car be operated by a conductor but also provides a penalty of $250 for each offense and fines of $100 or $200 daily for each day the offense continues, payable by the Pullman company.

Sponsors contend that operation of these cars without a conductor has not proven successful and that porters are not able to supervise them correctly.

According to E. M. Graham, grand chairman of the Pullman Porters Benefit association, and Paul E. Brown, publicity director of the protective association, Negroes have a distinguished record for operating sleeping cars efficiently.

"A large number has operated in-charge for periods ranging from 10 to 40 years," Mr. Brown asserted. "The traveling public has accepted the service of these men as being thoroughly satisfactory. The auditing department and the superior officers of these porters have praised their work and have found it efficiently done with neatness and exactness.

THOUSANDS MAY LOSE JOBS

"If this measure is passed, there looms a possibility of thousands of porters being discharged, thus adding to the national unemployment problem. Our fight is a fight to retain the jobs we as a race already have and desire to keep. We desire to retain for posterity the economic opportunity that has already been provided by years of toil and struggle of the men long before us."

Both Mr. Graham and Mr. Brown asked all persons and organizations to write or wire their senators and representatives in congress asking that they vote against the measure.

NEGRO BUSINESS AND BLACK LABOR

We understand that Leo M. Lyons of the Illinois Emergency Relief Commission has withdrawn his sponsorship of the WPA projects. All projects sponsored by the IERC and the Chicago Relief Administration are to be abandoned by June 30.

This means the laying off of 30,000 people in the state of Illinois. We address this editorial to Negro business men and professionals. The low purchasing power of the masses of our people endangers your position. This must be clear. Do you understand what 30,000 more jobless means?

Here on the South Side the sewing project, the largest single WPA project in the country, hires 4,600 people. They all go out. The vast majority of them are the financial backbone of Negro families. If that project goes, the whole community will suffer. Thousands of dollars will be lost to South side merchants. Hundreds of families will be more destitute.

It seems that this point need not be labored. When we are hit in the pocket we usually act. Let's act now before we are hit. This seems brutally selfish. But we approach this problem here as it must be approached on a nation-wide basis. Negro business can not to defend Negro labor if it would defend itself.

Protest to Mr. Lyons, Mayor Kelly and Governor Horner. Mr. Lyons has money appropriated for IERC relief. He spends so much a month. Let him maintain these WPA projects. The government aids in this substantially. Mr. Lyons need only supply 25 per cent of the necessary amount. The government provides 75 per cent.

Mayor Kelly has asked Mr. Lyons to act. But Mayor Kelly is himself not blameless. He has withdrawn the city's support of the Chicago Relief Administration. Let the City Council find funds for this bar to starvation.

Then we must appeal to Governor Horner. The state's special session of the legislature did nothing.

How many times have we heard these people say, "No one will starve." But words of themselves do not stop hunger. Timely action is needed now, today.

We appeal to Negro business to act in its own interests. Take up the cudgels for these people whose purchasing power is your mainstay. Increase the WPA projects. Our people must have work and adequate wages.

Red Caps Win Bonus Pay Plan

CHICAGO. — An agreement under which red caps on the New York Central Railroad System will receive 85 per cent of the collections on the ten cent bag charge was announced last week by Willard S. Townsend, president of the United Transport Service Employees.

Under the agreement, which is retroactive to June 1, the railroad still guarantees the minimum wage rate as set forth under the Fair Labor Standards Act, but any surplus from the 85 per cent fund, over the amount required to cover this minimum, is to be distributed among the employees as a bonus for each payroll period.

This contract, signed following several conferences between Mr. Townsend and officials of the railroad, makes the third bonus plan now in effect with various roads. Others, according to Mr. Townsend, are contemplated.

RED CAPS TAKE UP TIP CASE

Chicago Ushers Intervene In Dispute on Baggage Fee

CHICAGO—The United Transport Service Employes of America, representing a majority of the nation's red caps, last week filed a petition to intervene in the ten cents baggage fee hearings filed against the Cincinnati Union Terminal Company by a passenger recently, asking that other major railroads, with which it holds agreements, be made parties to the proceedings.

The new system, commented Willard S. Townsend, president of the United Transport Service Employes of America, "virtually amounts to the payment of red caps' salaries by an additional levy on the general public." Mrs. Ida M. Stopher of Cincinnati, who filed the suit against the Cincinnati Union Terminal Company protests payment of the ten cents fee in her bill.

Pepsi-Cola Signs Ace Announcer

CHICAGO (ANP)—The Pepsi-Cola company made known through the National Feature Service this week that they had contracted with Austin Johnson, youthful sports commentator, for a series of broadcasts to be heard over station WIND every Sunday night at 10:30.

Johnson's presentation of his "News In Sports" brought him much popularity and a flurry of fan mail while appearing weekly on a special featured broadcast over another station.

Herman T. Smith, national representative in charge of Negro marketing and sales, visited Chicago this week and will be heard in a brief interview on the initial broadcast.

Johnson's interest in radio broadcasting can be traced back to his Englewood high school days in Chicago and increased during his spectacular college career at Alabama State where he had complete management of the athletic broadcasts. As an athlete "Feature Jack," as he was popularly known on the campus, was honored with the distinction of being selected on the Negro All-American basketball team.

NEW POSTMASTER

SEP 14 1940

Mrs. Bobbie L. Allen is the attractive postmaster at Hopkins Park, Kankakee County, Ill. Her appointment by James A. Farley July 1 was well received by the town's population of 250 white and Negro inhabitants. There are two churches and three schools.

Completes Half A Century With Illinois Central

EVANSVILLE, Ind.—James Ray has served the Illinois Central railroad for 50 years. Born at Union City, Tenn., in 1875, Ray found himself in 1890 as a laborer in the Paducah shops in Newport News and the Mississippi Valley, now the Kentucky division of the Illinois Central.

James Ray

In 1910 he was transferred here where he has since worked as a porter and engine cleaner.

Despite his 50 years of service on and around locomotives, Mr. Ray holds a perfect record of safety, having never been injured in the performance of his duties, and never was attended by a physician in his life as long as he can remember.

Mr. Ray is a thirty-second degree Mason and a Shriner. He has a wife and one son.

SEEK BACK PAY AND DAMAGES

Indianapolis Attorney Takes Matter to Federal Court for Action

SEP 14 1940

INDIANAPOLIS.—Red Caps here asked $40,800 judgment for unpaid wages and a like amount in liquidated damages in a suit filed by their attorney, Henry J. Richardson, Jr., in Federal court recently. The Indianapolis Union Railway was named defendant. Charles A. Kelly and twenty-three of the thirty-four Red Caps employed at the local depot were represented by Willard S. Townsend of Chicago, who has been "designated" representative in bringing the action.

J. J. Liddy, Indianapolis Union Railway superintendent, declared the suit was the outgrowth of a dispute involving the Red Caps' organization and the Eastern Association of Railroads, with the question of pay for the Red Caps being the point of difference.

The suit cites provisions of the labor standards act in interstate commerce industries and alleges that the Indianapolis Union Railway should be required to pay employees not less than twenty-five cents an hour beginning as of October 24, 1938, to October 23, 1939, and thirty cents an hour after the latter date.

Red Caps in many instances had not been paid at all, the complaint for judgment alleges, but in cases in which "wages" had been received they had amounted to one, two, three and in a few instances five cents an hour.

Under a recent agreement with large railroads, Red Caps here at the local Union station as well as those at other cities were receiving ten cents for each piece of baggage handled.

During the period October 24, 1938, to October 1, 1939, the Red Caps were put on the pay roll by the railroads through various depots took for granted that tips were meant to be a part of their salary. Contending that tips should be counted apart and not as a part of the salary, the Red Caps have disputed the railroad's position.

Under the present arrangement, which embraces eastern depots, Red Caps charge ten cents for each piece of baggage handled. Here at the Indianapolis station the Red Caps keep 8 1-4 of each ten cents collected and 1 1-4 cents are kept by the station for overhead charges, the superintendent revealed. They are guaranteed thirty cents an hour if they do not handle that amount of baggage, he said.

SEP 14 1940

20,000 ON RELIEF DESPITE BOOM IN CALUMET AREA

Industrial Upsurge Tops 1929 Levels.

DEC 1 1940

The vast industrial machine of northern Lake county, Indiana—Gary, Whiting, Hammond, and East Chicago—is a humming hive of productivity.

Pay checks go weekly to 9,000 more workers than were employed in 1929, the previous high mark. Not even in the war days of 1917 and 1918 did the steel mills and other factories attain such a production pace.

Despite this record breaking upsurge in employment and production, the Calumet industrial area continues to support more than 20,000 persons, or 7 per cent of the county population, by direct relief or WPA. And it appears that this figure will remain constant, at least for several years, even should industrial expansion require more workers.

Survey Discloses Reasons.

These facts were disclosed yesterday in a survey of production and employment and of social service workers, civil authorities, and private observers conversant with the situation. The survey also disclosed some of the causes underlying this problem of relief during an industrial boom.

Lake county has a population of 280,000. In October there were 6,718 cases, representing 20,232 persons, who depended for their living either on direct relief from the 11 township trustees, from the WPA, or from the CCC, in which 342 youths are enrolled.

On Nov. 1 the figures for industrial employment in Gary, Hammond, East Chicago and Whiting, as reported to the state employment board, were 86,000. In September, 1929, the previous peak, the industrial employment figure was 77,000.

Relief Costs Higher.

Last month the direct and indirect cost of relief for 20,232 persons in Lake county was $157,238. In September of 1929 fewer than 2,000 persons were drawing their livelihood from the government, at a cost of $17,000. Thus while employment was 11 per cent higher in 1940 than it was in 1929, the relief costs were nine times higher.

Relief in Lake county reached an all time high in 1938, during the so-called whoopee era. Investigations brought about the indictment of two township officials, a Gary school board member who was associated with a company selling coal to relief clients, and a number of merchants whose sale of relief commodities to the townships came under scrutiny.

That year saw a "recession" in employment to 50,000 for the Calumet area. It also brought on heated municipal elections. And it saw the local and WPA relief rolls rise, just before the election, to nearly 20,000 cases involving an estimated 62,000 persons receiving either federal or township assistance. The relief bill for October that year was $850,000 and for the entire year was $8,368,500.

Probe Decreases Rolls.

Investigation of poor relief by the Indiana unemployment relief commission caused the relief rolls to decrease somewhat. Then, with the increase in industrial employment at the beginning of 1939, the relief load began a steady drop, accelerating as the European war brought more orders.

A levelling-off process set in late in 1939, and by the end of the year reached the plane at which it has since remained. In December, 1939, the case load was 6,400. Almost a year later, last Oct. 1, the number of those on WPA or receiving direct relief was decreased only by 100, and this despite a gain in employment of 6,000 in the same period.

"The problem will remain permanent until industry can absorb those employables now on relief," said Mrs. Frankie Helman, trustee of Calumet township, who administers relief for Gary. "At least half of those men now on township relief are physically employable. They are anxious to obtain work but are unable to do so, except for odd jobs. By far the majority of them are unskilled."

Minimum Load Reached.

Other authorities agree that a minimum relief load apparently has been reached, but they disagreed with Mrs. Helman on other points. One, a Lake county tax expert, an active participant in county governmental affairs, said:

"Half of those on relief in Lake county are Negroes who are content with their lot under the present generous relief scheme. They will not work unless compelled to get off relief. There still is work for unskilled labor in the steel mills."

This authority declined to permit the use of his name, saying that if he did so pressure would be brought on him by organized WPA workers and certain unions which draw heavily for their members on lower bracket labor groups.

Negroes Called Big Problem.

"Gary's big problem," Mrs. Helman admitted, "is the Negro who was brought here from the south by friends in the hope that he could get employment, especially during the brief period of industrial pickup in 1937."

Mrs. Helman said most of these men now are without jobs, with little prospect of being employed soon because they are unskilled labor.

In the last ten years the industrial area relief problem has been aggravated by the influx of thousands seeking work and winding up on relief. Much of this is blamed on what many describe as Lake county's "easy" relief requirements. The establishment of one year's residence and lack of income are virtuallly the only requirements.

DEC 1 1940

The population increased from 260,000 to 280,000—just the amount of the present relief load—from 1930 to 1940.

LABOR - 1940
OCCUPATION WAGES ETC.

KANSAS

STATE EMPLOYEES UNDER GOV. RATNER

The above picture is a group of state employees appointed by Governor Ratner and who are serving under his administration in Kansas. They are Miss Charlene Morton, Topeka, legal stenographer; Misn Martha Morgan, Kansas Kansas City, voucher clerk; Miss Ethe l L. Ransome, Topeka, legal stenographer; Miss Marian Madison, Labette County, filing clerk; Mrs. Ashley Epps, Topeka, stenographer; Miss Alice Clark, Douglas County, legal stenographer; Miss Bessie Eads, Labette County, clerk, and Marcella Davis, clerk.

OCT 25

NEW FIELD OPENED FOR SALESMEN

Coee

George King Represents Fruit Company at New Food Terminal

1-TR-40

KANSAS CITY, Kas.—(Special)—Anew field in the realm of salesmanship was opened Tuesday, January 2, when George King Jr., for ten years a butcher and one of the best known figures in Clayborne's Market, Tenth street and Washington boulevard, began his duties as the first Negro city salesman for the A. Robinson and Sons Fruit company with headquarters in the new Kansas City Food Terminal.

Mr. King is calling on stores owned by Negroes and white stores in Negro neighborhoods. He started out with 28 stops.

Robinson has been in the fruit business for 35 years. This firm has hired Negro truck drivers for many years.

More Jobs Will Be Result

Mr. King in an interview with the Call said he hoped that the Negro stores would support him adding that more responsible jobs for young Negroes would be the results.

Mr. King who is married to the former Miss Evelyn Mundy, lives at 2706 North Fifth street. They have a daughter, Marlene, 5 years old.

The Kings are members of First A.M.E. church.

The new salesman is the son of Mr. and Mrs. George King Sr 844 Ohio avenue.

GEORGE KING JR.

Jordan Bakery Employees

MERRILL RAGIN
1832 Harrison St.

PERLE WILSON
RFD No. 8

Plumbers
5-10-40
Kansas City Kansas

At the recent Food Show held at Baldwin Recreation Center, a statement was made concerning the Jordan Baking Company not employing colored people. The above two colored men are employed at this bakery and have been for several years. These two men are well known to Topeka people. They live at the above addresses.

For many years the Jordan Baking Company has had colored people in their employ and have found that these folks were among their most faithful workers.

Youths At CCC Camp

The Plaindealer
Kansas city, Kan.
OCT 11 1940

From Democratic National Com.

At the CCC Camp and on the farm, thousands of young men have received a type of training they never would have gotten otherwise. Half of the nearly 18,000,000 colored Americans live on farms in the south. Our future, as a race, is basically tied up with the progress of those on the farm. Photo (above) shows CCC enrollees going through regular morning exercises. Below, agricultural students learn about the care of baby chicks. Right, a CCC man returns home after six months in camp. — (POL ADV.)

Governor Appoints Colored Commission

FRANKFORT, Ky.—Gov. Keen Johnson has appointed a commission composed of both Negroes and whites to promote the employment of Negroes in Kentucky.

This action, on April 5, was a culmination of the Kentucky Conference on the Employment Problems of Negroes held in the state capitol last year under the joint auspices of the federal Department of Labor and the state government.

The nine man commission was appointed by the Governor April 5, when Lt. L. A. Oxley of the Federal Department of Labor, who had promoted the employment conference last year, returned to the state with the findings of other similar state meetings.

The persons who met with the governor in his office to assist in the selection of the commission were J. W. Rogers, who had been the chairman of the findings committee of the Kentucky conference on the employment problems of Negroes; David H. Bradford, also a member of the findings committee, Mr. Oxley, President R. B. Atwood of the Kentucky State College and W. H. Fraysure.

Among the members of the state commission are W. H. Fraysure director of the Kentucky State Employment Service, chairman of the commission; David H. Bradford, head of the department of history and government at Kentucky State College for Negroes, secretary of the commission; Edward Weyler, secretary of the Kentucky State Federation of Labor; E. J. O'Brien, president of the E. J. O'Brien Tobacco Company, and Dean William S. Taylor of the college of education, University of Kentucky.

The Kentucky conference was the second of a series of such meetings which were held in a number of states having a relatively large Negro population during the past year.

The findings of each of these conferences which were attended by members of both races who were interested in the employment of the Negro were strikingly similar in their indications of the vital and pressing needs of the situation.

From the states of the lowe

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LABOR- 1940
OCCUPATION, WAGES, ETC.

LABOR BILL

NNC SUPPORTS MARCANTONIO'S LABOR BILL

Pledging its every effort toward obtaining the passage of the Marcantonio American Fair Labor Standard bill in this session of Congress, the Chicago Council of the National Negro Congress this week voted to carry on a campaign to arouse public interest in the measure.

The Marcantonio bill would greatly expand activities of the Works Progress Administration and would point Federal efforts toward providing jobs for all employable Americans now without work.

"In the face of layoffs on WPA and the all too frequent discrimination against Negroes on WPA projects, plus the disproportion of Negroes without jobs and dependent on relief and WPA to survive," said Mrs. Lillian Summers, president of the Chicago Council, "the Marcantonio bill should command the whole-hearted support of the Negro people—labor, professional, church and civic groups.

"Confronted by a condition wherein some six out of ten Negroes are without jobs other than WPA, this proposed legislation will hit at the vital spot for the survival of our people. The Congress soon will call on organizations and their memberships to flood Congress with demands that this bill be brought onto the floor and before public opinion for action and support. The Chicago Council also will take this measure as the No. 1 proposal for indorsement and action upon at the great third National Negro Congress this month."

Miss Pauline Myers, of the YMCA industrial department, has been designated as chairman of a committee to popularize provisions of the bill and to mobilize support behind the measure.

At the suggestion of Dr. John Cecil, member of the Home Owners Loan Corporation council, the meeting went on record as supporting a proposal to extend the present loans of HOLC clients to 25 years making it mandatory that such extensions be made instead of leaving it to the discretion of HOLC and critics in the various states. Said Dr. Cecil in asking the Negro Congress' support:

"Taking a position to extend the time limit in HOLC loans is of vital interest to small home owners among Negroes who are finding it difficult to meet their obligations to HOLC."

Ishmael P. Flory, chairman reported to the Chicago Council on the drive to build the third National Negro Congress in Washington on April 26, 27 and 28, and the Chicago Council as a united movement of the Negro people in their organizations to correct abuses against the Race. A number of new affiliates were reported and Flory's report indicated that Chicago and Illinois will send a large delegation to the Congress conclave in Washington.

Joseph Johnson spoke on the social basis of lynching showing the origin of lynching, its nature and the social forces that must be combatted in order to put an end to lynch terror. Mr. Johnson has prepared the manuscript of a book on the subject which is expected to come off the press in the near future.

LABOR- 1940
OCCUPATION, WAGES, ETC.

LOUISIANA

White Owner Hires Race Pharmacist

NEW ORLEANS, La., June 20—In line with what New Orleans calls its "Buy Where You Work Program" Bernard Campagna, operator of 4 drug stores in the Singer Subdivision on Olive street, has placed Charles Blin, registered pharmacist, in charge of his drug-store. The store is situated in the heart of one of the most densely-populated Negro districts in the city, and serves practically only Negroes. Mr. Campagna states that this is in keeping with his policy of giving jobs to those who make his business possible. This is the second Negro to be given such a position in New Orleans within the past six weeks.

New Orleans Citizens Urged To Put Up Fight For Census Jobs

By HAYWOOD JACKSON

NEW ORLEANS, La., Jan. 26—Following an interview with James Hamilton, federal attache of the U. S. Census Bureau assigned to the New Orleans area, Leon Lewis, press correspondent, reiterated his belief that there is intention to exclude members of the race from employment as enumerators in the population census-taking and the exclusion of Race members from the business and manufacturers census-taking now in progress. Applications for residence enumerators will be available on February 1 in Carondolet building.

Mr. Lewis, in conference with Mr Hamilton, stated that he was convinced that an evasive program had been instituted to keep Race enumerators out of the set-up.

Foregoing statements by letter from Mr. Hamilton have said that members of the Race would be used only in areas "entirely" inhabited by Race members. Washington authorities have requested Mr. Hamilton to correct this with "areas predominantly inhabited by Race people."

Befuddling the situation further Mr. Hamilton made the following assertions: (1) "Enumerators are selected by congressmen," (2) "My quota of business enumerators has been filled," (3) "Local supervisors will select population census enumerators" and many other statements conflicting with information from Washington authorities as to the policy of the Census department.

A local division supervisor for the population census stated that they would be governed by advice from Washington.

To force an issue which he thinks will have great effect on the situation, Mr. Lewis addressed a letter to all Race business.

Prefacing his letter, Lewis said, "Word has gone out that we should cooperate with the census-taking but if such rank inconsideration is to be expected as gotten from Mr Hamilton, time is ripe for a reversion of cooperation. We should use every effort to give as much inconvenience as possible, without violating the applied statute."

LOUISIANIAN PROPOSES BILL ASKING THAT ONLY BONA-FIDE VOTERS WORK ON RAILROADS IN THE STATE

Move Would Oust Hundreds of Negroes From Jobs They Now Hold; White Unions Reputed To Be Backing Bill; Employers Satisfied With Negroes.

BATON ROUGE, La.—One of the shrewdest legal maneuvers in the history of those seeking to displace Negro laborers from their jobs, was hatched here this week, when Senate Bill No. 100 sponsored by a Mr. LeBlanc was circulated through the Louisiana Senate seeking to require railroads operating within the state of Louisiana to employ in their services "only bona-fide and qualified voters of the United States of America.

Informed circles state the LeBlanc has the backing of white labor unions which for many years have eyed with envy the stragetic places occupied by Negro laborers on the Southern Pacific, Missouri Pacific, Texas Pacific, and other railroad systems within the confines of the state and on which important positions are held as brakemen, firemen, porters, etc.

It is claimed that enactment and enforcement of such a law would displace many thousands of Negro workers, some of whom have been in the employe of the railroads for over a quarter of a century, and according to the employers of the Negro laborers who would be affected, these Negro employees are not only competent and capable of holding their jobs but have rendered invaluable service to the companies during the years of their employment. These employers claim that many of them are indispensable.

The text of the bill in question follows.

SENATE BILL NO. 100
By Mr. LeBLANC
AN ACT

To require railroads operating in and within the boundaries of the State of Louisiana to employ in their services only, bona-fide and qualified voters of the United States of America.

SECTION 1. Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana that the different and various railroad companies, corporations, individuals, firms and associations operating railroads in and within the boundaries of the State of Louisiana are hereby required to employ only men and women who are qualified and bona-fide voters of the United States of America.

SECTION 2. That for the purpose of explaining the intent of this act, it is understood that by a qualified voter, it is meant any person who has participated and cast their ballots in the primary and general election within the confien of any State in the Union.

SECTION 3. Any violation of this act shal be deemed a misdemeanor and punishable by fine of not less than one hundred ($100.00) dollars and not more than five hundred ($500.00) dollars and imprisonment in the parish prison or police jail for not less than six (6) months nor more than one year.

SECTION 4. That all laws or parts of laws inconsistent herewith or in conflict herewith be and the same are hereby repealed.

Atlanta [illegible] Journal
April 3, 1940

Negro Planning Board To Meet at Waycross

AUGUSTA, Ga., April 3.—(AP)—Chairman Benjamin F. Huber Wednesday called a meeting of the State Central Planning Committee for Negroes at Waycross this week-end.

The meeting, in connection with the Georgia Teachers Educational Association conference, is to be given over to informal discussions of needs of Georgia Negroes and of plans to meet the needs.

Carolina Cotton Pickers Set For Big Dance Tour

SEP 21 1940

Shreveport, La., Sept. 19—The Carolina Cotton Pickers, known as the "South's Musical Heat Wave," are making final preparations for an extended dance tour of the southeastern States.

The band has a complete set of new instruments, a new sound set, a new bus and three sets of new uniforms. Musically, they are well-known and when they get dressed up, they'll really start going places.

They are being booked by the Pelican Orchestra Service, 1040 Texas avenue, this city.

Discuss Wages For Sugar Cane Laborers In Louisiana

NEW ORLEANS, Aug. 9 (By Richard H. Thomas for ANP) — Another year brings the tall stalks of sugar cane that must be harvester in Louisiana, another year as has been the case during the last four years, open hearings are being held here by the department of agriculture to determine wages for harvesting, cultivating and production of the 1940 crop. Residing officers are John C Ragwell, Charles M. Nicholson, G Laglardia, and Otis M. Mulliken.

Results obtained from these hearings in former years have helped sugarcane laborers immensely. The large majority of which are Negroes depend in many cases on the three months of harvesting for the year's livelihood.

Until 1939 sugar laborers received 90c to $1 harvesting cane from dawn til dark. The new wage rate forced them to trade at commissary stores where they were greatly overcharged. Children under 14 years of age worked along side their elders to help keep up. A $1.50 minimum for a nine-hour day for male workers, $1.20 for the same time for female workers were set up as harvest wages for the 1939 crop. The minimum pay for cuttingcane on a tonnage basis was 75c a ton, and special provisions were made for the hours and pay of children between the ages of 14 and 16.

CLAIM LABOR Defender GOONS BEAT Chicago COLLECTORS

Three Released On Bail Of $1,000; Three Held Without Bond

OCT 19 1940

By LEON LEWIS

NEW ORLEANS—The protecting arm of the law moved in to check strong-arm tactics against Negro insurance companies this week following the brutal assault on two agents, John Blanchard, of the Louisiana Industrial Life Insurance company and Norman Bertaux of tre Unity Insurance company.

Six were jailed in the round-up of labor goons. They were: Ernest Wright, CIO organizer for the insurance agents' union, who several days ago was jailed for intimidation of state witness in connection with a forgery case.

Zack Ramsey, striking agent formerly of Louisiana and who succeeded Rev. Jake Spears as president of the union after Spears was jailed for forgery of sick claims.

Louis Fouche, a striking agent and one of ring leaders in strong-arm tactics.

Ernest Worthy, alias "Battling Siki" well known police character and criminal with a record extending as far back as 1929, and Frank Hoskins, a well known police character.

Chris Williams whose police record in crimes of assault, theft and disturbing the peace extend over a period of years.

According to statements of the men, Wright, Fouche and Ramsey went to Worthy's home early Monday morning to hire him to beat up several agents who are now working for the insurance companies. Worthy, after being promised a good job if the CIO won the strike, found Hoskins and Williams in gambling joints got in the car with Wright, Ramsey and Fouche, secured a gun from a local pawn shop, drank a half-pint of whiskey and drove uptown to locate agents. Bertaux was assailed and beaten. Blanchard was beaten with butt of gun, the assailants confiscated his gun and pawned it for two dollars.

Description of these men were turned over to police and they were picked up in several hours, jailed and grilled.

Wright, Ramsey and Fouche were later released on $1,000 bond, while Williams, Worthy and Hoskins were held without bail.

The charges against the men were Lying in wait armed with a revolver to do bodily harm; assault with deadly weapon, assault and robbery.

Tobacco Marts Exempt From Hours Limits

Post

5-30-40

Ruling Classifies Industry as Seasonal, Excepts Overtime Pay

Southern Maryland tobacco markets were declared exempt from the hours provisions of the Fair Labor Standards Act for the handling of leaf tobacco in a ruling yesterday by the Wage and Hour Division of the Department of Labor. Washington

Under the ruling classifying the industry as "seasonal" it was held:

"The buying, handling, sorting, grading, packing and storing of Maryland leaf tobacco may be carried on for 12 hours in any workday, or for 56 hours in any workweek, for a period aggregating 14 workweeks in any calendar year, before the overtime provisions requiring payment of at least time and one-half the regular rate of pay becomes effective."

The exemption does not relieve the industry from the minimum wage provisions of the act.

Requets for the ruling was submitted by the Maryland Tobacco Co., of Upper Marlboro, and other dealers. No objections to the request were filed and there were no requests for a hearing.

860 Workers on Poe Homes Paid $445,000

320 More Get Jobs with Firms Supplying Materials; Unemployment Rolls Cut by Projects

BALTIMORE

With the complexion next month of the two-million-dollar Edgar Allan Poe Homes housing projects jobs will have been provided for 1180 workers.

The first of seven such projects authorized for Baltimore City, the Poe project is expected to cost around $1,830,000, of which $445,000 will have been paid in wages to the 860 workmen employed on the site.

An additional 320 persons have been given work for a year in producing and transporting construction materials for this project, the smallest of the seven. About 30 Baltimore concerns, as sub-contractors, supplied materials for the project. It is estimated that 11,660 men will have worked on the seven completed projects. Afro American

Aided Prosperity

Much of the money paid t these workmen has found it way into general circulation here undoubtedly contributing much to the decline in unemployment figures and to an upswing in general prosperity Aug 31, 1940

Money for the necessities of life, food, clothing and shelter—has found its way into the blood stream of the city's business, and there has been a representative portion of it diverted for recreation and amusement as well as for professional services of doctors, dentists, etc.

The United States Housing Authority made available to the Housing Authority of Baltimore, loans, representing ninety per cent of the cost of the project, to be repaid in sixty years. The USHA will also make annual contributions to the local authority to maintain rentals, as the low-income families occupying the homes actually pay about half of what they would pay were they living in similar privately-owned dwellings.

Others in 162 Cities

Some idea of the scope of the operation of the Government's housing projects may be gained when it is known that the USHA has so far provided for almost 400 similar projects in 162 localities.

The total cost of these projects will be about $280,000,000 or virtually as much as the French government spent on the construction of the once-famed Maginot Line.

Aside from the economic value of these housing developments, Nathan Straus, administrator of the USHA, speaking of their social value, said:

Built in Sunshine

"It is our blessing as a nation that our Maginot Line need not be underground and surrounded by forts and cannons.

"We are building out in the sunshine—for our Maginot Line is the American house and homes and the American standard of living. It is surrounded with parks and playgrounds and equipped for safe, clean and cultural family life, that our youth may grow in physical and moral health to fortify the nation's body and soul."

Personals

BALTIMORE

PRIDGEN — Mr. and Mrs. Pridgen of Pittsburgh visited her sister, Mrs. Thelma Reynolds of this city. Mr. and Mrs. Hudson and Mrs. Pridgen's children accompanied them.

MARSHALL — Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Marshall of New York recently visited his brother, Shield Marshall, of Lanvale Street.

TERRY — Mr and Mrs. Roy Terry of Cleveland, Ohio, and Mrs. Maude Dunlap of Gap Mills, W.Va., were overnight guests of the Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Key in Laurel, when they stopped en route to Reading, Pa.

FOWLER—Samuel Fowler of New Haven, Conn., is visiting his sisters, Mrs. Matilda Kelson and Mrs. Loretta Jones of Baltimore.

CARTER — Miss Audrey Mae Carter of 336 N. Carrollton Avenue and Mrs. Gertrude Colbert of N. Gilmor Street, who attended the Morgan State College summer school, are vacationing in Newark, N.J., Brooklyn, N.Y., and New York City.

LEWIS—Mrs. Effie Lewis of East Orange, N.J., is visiting her sister, Mrs. Susie Norris in Baltimore, and her daughter, Mrs. Bertha Percel.

EVERETT—Mrs. Hattie Everett of New York City is vacationing here with her cousin, Mrs. Josephine Burton of 714 N. Bond Street.

TIPPER—Mr. and Mrs. Barton Tipper of Aliquippa, Pa., spent a week here as the guest of Mrs. Hattie B. Hicks of 2431 Druid Hill Avenue. They visited Washington on Wednesday.

LABOR- 1940
OCCUPATION, WAGES, ETC.

MASSACHUSETTS

JOBLESS YOUTH CONFERENCE

Serving subpoenas on the young people of Massachusetts is the current occupation of the members of five large youth organizations. The subpoenas summon the young generation to "Youth's Day in Court" when the case of "4,000,000 American youth versus Unemployment" will be considered. Sponsors of the unique conference, to be held all day Sunday, May 26, in the South End Municipal Building, are Massachusetts Youth Council, Greater Boston Christian Youth Council, State Executive Council of the CIO, Boston Junior Unit of the American Jewish Congress, and New England Conference of Colored Youth.

Featured in the "Youth's Day" will be four proposals for solving the crime om unemployment, given by spokesmen for the Republican and Democratic parties, organized labor and organized youth. Asst. Attorney General Daniel J. Doherty, former National Commander of the American Legion, will explain the Democratic Party's program for America's jobless youth. Joseph Cadder, executive secretary of the American Youth Congress, will present the American Youth Act, and Clive D. Knowles, executive director of Labor's Non-Partisan League of Massachusetts, will present labor's program.

"Grand Illusion" and "Kameradschaft", international prize-winning films from France and Germany respectively, will be shown in the evening. The conference will open with a Memorial Day Service at which Rev. Stephen Fritchman, director of the Unitarian Youth Commission, will preach the sermon. The morning session will hear Prof. Dorothy W. Douglas, Department of Economics of Smith College and author of "Child Workers in America," on the extent and severity of unemployment among youth. Discussion by the delegates from all sections of Massachusetts will follow.

Hotel Employee Is Harp-Maker In His Spare Time: Wins Hobby Contest

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. Jan. 12 — A hobby contest conducted here recently by employees of the American Hotels corporation, brought to light a musician and wood-craftsman of rare ability.

This man, W. F. Burton, of 920 Sigsbee street, S.E., superintendent of wash-rooms for the Rowe hotel here, won first prize after judges examined his exquisite collection of hand wrought harps, lyres, music stands and batons, all of which are artistically fashioned with utmost exactness after patterns of the ancients.

The surprising thing about Billy Burton is that he is director of the choir of the First A.M.E. church and is a true artist in the field of wood-carving. His proficiency in one field led to activity in the other.

While he was looking for Biblical lyrics for choir presentation, he conceived the idea which has provided him with a hobby for several years—a hobby which is possibly unrivaled in the realm of the unusual.

Painstaking Artist

Burton makes harps, and in his collection of 15, there are examples representing times from 2,000 B.C. to the present day. That these harps are carefully made is proved by the fact that he has been working on an Aeolian harp for six years and still isn't finished with it.

Many of the pieces in his collection he has copied from illustrations in the Bible, first drawing plans from the illustration and then painstakingly building the harp by hand for all of his finished pieces are masterful examples of inlay work.

'Work Finely Inlaid

And one of the prize bits of his work is a lyre-shaped music stand which he values at $500 and contains 1,500 inlays of mother of pearl, rubies and rhinestones. The design is his own creation, he says, and has places for three of his batons which further add to the lyre-like appearance of the stand.

The materials he uses, which are choicest maple, spruce and white pine wood, have been given to him for the most part by interested furniture and veneer companies here in the city.

His rare hobby recently brought him first prize in a hobby contest among 4,000 employes of the American Hotels corporation, of which the Rowe hotel is a unit. Burton is superintendent of washrooms at the Rowe.

Hopes to Inspire Others

"The $10 which I won in the contest," said Burton, when he was interviewed, "is right here in my pocket in new one-dollar bills, and it's going to my mother for Christmas."

And happy though he was to have won the contest, Burton said the best thing about it, as far as he was concerned, was that "it shows Grand Rapids has some talent, too—New York, Chicago and other big towns don't have everything. Besides, it may encourage a lot of young men to turn to similar hobbies and give them a great deal of enjoyment."

And that's W. F. (Billy) Burton—choir director without musical training, a wood-carver without training in that field, and an accomplished artist in both pursuits.

CITE POLITICS IN FIRINGS AT FORD CO. PLANT

Former Employes Charge They Were 'Axed' For Voting Democratic

DETROIT, April 12—A hearing on a petition filed by three former employes of the Ford Motor company who charge coercion and intimidation, will be set by the local branch of the National Labor Relation board this week, according to Atty. Joseph A. Craigen, counsel for the three petitioners.

In the petition, which was filed last week, the three men, Eugene Turner, Willis Bradford, and William Armstrong, of Ecorse, Mich., charged that they were discharged from the Ford Motor plant in River Rouge because they had worked for and voted the Democratic ticket.

The three men are married and Turner had been employed at the plant for 12 years; Bradford, 17 years, and Armstrong 11 years.

The petition charges that Donald Marshall and Willis Ward, members of the Ford personnel department, and James Peyton, head of the Wayne County Voters District association, "have coerced members of the Negro race into joining the Wayne County Voters District association," and that the organization "is operated and maintained for the purpose of counter-acting labor organizational influence among Race employes of the Ford Motor company within this jurisdiction, and unless one is a member of the Wayne County Voters District association, he stands a slim chance of working at, or being hired by the Ford Motor company."

In the petition Turner charges that "on February 12, he was called to the personnel office by the said Donald Marshall and told by the said Donald Marshall that, 'You people down South voted the Republican and up North you vote Democratic. There is no Negro Democrat. You'd better protect your bread and butter and vote the Republican, and leave unions lanoe.'

"That upon his refusal to join up with the said Morrow (head of the Wayne County Voters District association in Ecorse), he was fired for no cause whatsoever, other than that he voted the Democratic ticket and belonged to his own organization which is the labor organization."

Bradford charges that he was discharged February 9 by Marshall for similar reasons, and Armstrong accuses Ward of having him discharged on the same grounds.

Marshall when told of the petition, emphatically denied the allegations made by the three petitioners.

"Those men were discharged just like hundreds of others when it came time to reduce the number of men in the furnace department," he said. "I don't ask a man about his politics when I hire him.

"If I had to discharge men because of their affiliation with the Democratic party, I would discharge a large number," he continued.

Wins $1,000 Verdict Against White Estate

JACKSON, Miss.—(ANP) — Walter Hickman, about 70, who five years ago quit farming to "look after" his white neighbor, J. F. Sullivan, then 82, was ordered paid $1,000 out of the dead man's estate by the supreme court here Monday.

It was brought out that Sullivan, a widower, had only an adopted son who was employed on road construction work which kept him away much of the time. He needed an attendant and servant to help get about and work the garden when necessary. So he turned to Hickman who sold his livestock, wagon, etc., and quit making further crops on his 10 acre farm to take care of the white man.

When Sullivan died at 87, the heirs contended Hickman was not due anything as there had been no written agreement Many witnesses called testified to the value of Hickman's services, but only two set any figure, The court adopted one $200 a year for the five years

ONLY ONE

The only Negro in Meridian, Miss., to hold such a job, Jimmy Cramer, a shoe salesman in one of the town's largest downtown shoe stores waits on all customers, regardless of race. Mr. Cramer began as a delivery boy when only 14 years old in the store where he now works with 32 years of experience as a clerk behind him. Four owners have employed him at the request of jatrons of the store.

These Youths Know How to Fight

This group represents a portion of the membership of the Colored Clerks Circle, Number one, as they assembled on a Thursday to orderly plan methods of attack on the merchants in Negro neighborhoods who refuse to employ clerks from the race of people which gives them the most support. This group meets once each week and over a period of two years has placed more than one hundred clerks and salesmen.

$1,300 Bonus Divided Among 74 N.Y. Red Caps

ST. LOUIS—(ANP)—After signing of an agreement between the Terminal Railroad association and the Brotherhood of Railroad and Steamship Clerks here last week, $1,300.16, April profits of the 10-cents a bag luggage-carrying plan, was divided between 74 red caps at the Union station.

Total profits of the plan's first 30 days, the sum was distributed in proportions based on the amount of money each employe had turned in. The highest dividend paid was $62, more than the employe's basic wage of $57.60 for the four-week period. Thirteen men failed to earn more than the minimum wage of $2.40 a day, it was revealed.

"Of course," one red cap said, "tips used to amount to more than $2.40 a day, but a lot of people still give a little extra."

ST. LOUIS CHEF HONORED BY BUSINESS MEN

B. J. Riley Ends 40 Years Of Service on Southwestern Railroad

ST. LOUIS. — (Special) —Reward for his 40 years of service with the Southwestern railroad was given Benjamin J. Riley last week by the St. Louis Chamber of Commerce which awarded him a medal for being "one of the longest in service among St. Louis employes."

Riley, who retired as chief in the private car service three years ago, worked for four presidents of the firm. He didn't enter the railroad service until he was 30 years old, having previously worked for the Anchor Line steamship company which operated mail packets between this city and points along the lower Mississippi.

All of his 40 years of service was given with St. Louis as his home station, Riley said. During that time he has seen tremendous strides made by the city and the railroads.

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — (ANP)—A suit, asking $88,443 in back wages from the Terminal Railway company was filed here last week by Kansas City red caps. This sum, they contend, is due them as compensation under the wage-hour law. A similar amount in damages also was asked, increasing the amount of the suit to $176,887.

The Terminal Railway company now pays the porters the difference between what they collect in tips and the 30 cents an hour they are entitled to under the wage-hour law. Declaring that tips cannot be counted as wages, the red caps say they should be paid full wages required by law.

Joseph Sprofera, a red cap, filed the suit in behalf of himself and 90 fellow followers.

Bob Lee Assigned as Route Salesman for Pepsi-Cola

Call 7-26-40 Kansas City, Mo.

Smiling, congenial Bob Lee began his duties Monday as a full-time route salesman driving a truck for the Pepsi-Cola Bottling company. Lee was assigned to one of Pepsi-Cola's best territories. In Kansas City, Lee was given an opportunity by Pepsi-Cola to prove that he could qualify as a route salesman. He was put on a Pepsi-Cola route as an assistant salesman and as a result of his efforts in that capacity, new accounts were opened and more cases of beverages were sold to the already established accounts. Making a place for himself in the business world through hard work, application of ability and determination to succeed, Lee has been rewarded by the Pepsi-Cola company with a substantial position. Look for the big white Pepsi-Cola truck piloted by Salesman Lee

Park College Pays Honor to Spencer Cave

PARKVILLE, Mo.—Park college held a special porgram in honor of Spencer Cave, employe of the school for 65 years, Sunday afternoon, January 1, at 3 o'clock, in the Meetin' House on the campus.

Mr. Cave, caretaker at the college, has been in continuous employment there since 1875, when the school was founded.

Known and beloved by every student who has attended Park college since its founding, Mr. Cave is known as an ambassador of goodwill for his race. A cordial and friendly relationship between the races is found at Park college largely due to the influence of Mr. Cave.

The college chose to honor Mr. Cave at the same time that Mr. and Mrs. Cave are celebrating their golden anniversary. The anniversary was celebrated on Monday, January 8.

Born a slave in Kentucky, Mr. Cave came to Missouri after emancipation, and in 1890, married Miss Nannie Summers, of Platte City.

At the ceremony, Sunday afternoon, Bishop James A. Hamlett, of Kansas City, Kas., was the principal speaker. A message from Dr. William L. Young, president of Park college, was read as President Young was out of the city. Mrs. Young presented flowers to Mrs. Cave.

Kuling Would Limit Number Of Taxicabs

Cab Owners Oppose Move To Reduce Cars to 50; Say It Is Unfair

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Kansas City's taxi cab operators are joining forces to fight with all their strength a ruling which would limit the number of Negro taxis which can operate to 50. At the present time, 107 taxicabs are operated by 20 or more companies and independent drivers.

The taxi drivers say that the proposal is unjust and that 50 taxis cannot properly serve the Negro population of Kansas City.

They point to the drastic almost 50-per cent-reduction in the number of Negro cabs while the number of white cabs will be cut only from 415 to 400 cars.

Ralph E. Cameron of the city's public works department, in proposing the ordinance bases his figues upon the population contending that if 400 white taxis can serve a white population of 365,000, then 50 cabs is sufficient for the 38,000 Negroes which the 1930 census gave as Kansas City's colored population.

Mr. Cameron said in proposing his ordinance that 74 cabs were operated by Negroes. An actual count by a Negro taxi owner taxicabs operating on the streets.

At its monthly meeting Monday night, the Kansas City N. A. A. C. P. branch directed its legal redress committee to fight the proposed ordinance. Calling attention to the injustice of the proposal, Attorney Carl R. Johnson, newly elected president of the branch said, "I believe that any such ordiance which can limit the number of Negro taxicabs which can operate in the city is illegal. If the city can say that only 50 cabs can be run then it can say only 10 Negro grocery stores can be operated it is unfair and we will fight it with all our strength."

Negroes will face a considerable loss in employment if the ordinance passes. Fifty or more cab drivers will be thrown out of work if the number of cars is limited to 50.

2nd ANNUAL COLORED CLERK'S CIRCLE WEEK PLANS ARE ARRANGED

'Buy Where You Can Work' Slogan Stressed

All of St. Louis will be called upon during the first ten days in March when the Colored Clerks Circle celebrates its second annual Colored Clerks Week. This event is an annual affair during which time the citizens of this city are called upon to glorify the "Colored Clerk," especially by shopping in the stores where he works and have him or her wait on you.

During this particular week, all colored citizens are called upon to aid in stimulating the idea of "Buy where you can work." The columns of this newspaper, along with other publications, will carry the messages of the many merchants of the city who are employing full-time Negro clerks in their business.

The Colored Clerks Circle, of which Frank M. Jones is president, looks forward each year to this weekly celebration, for it gives a composite picture of the work that they have been doing during the year. The activity of this group of young people is to place competent colored clerks in all of the stores where a large volume of the business comes from colored people. This organization had its beginning several years ago when several young men organized a group after a restaurant conversation. Since its beginning more than one hundred and fifty trained clerks have been placed on full-time jobs. Much of this placement has been accomplished over severe difficulties. The next week's issue will carry complete history of the organization as well as pictures and an accurate account of its activities.

Negro Passenger Brakemen On Streamlined 'The Eagle'

In a recent conference with John Cannon, vice president and chief operating officer of the Missouri-Pacific lines, an agreement was reached whereby Negro passenger brakemen would be placed on the newest and finest streamlined train in America, "The Eagle", operating between St. Louis, Kansas City and Omaha. This is the only streamlined train in the United States on which Negro passenger brakemen are employed.

The negotiations were conducted by Steve Bennett and Vernon Coffey, president and representative, respectively of the Trainmen, Brakemen and Porters Union No. 21458 A. F. of L.

74 RED CAPS GET $1300 IN WAGE BONUSES

ST. LOUIS, June 6—(ANP)—After signing of an agreement between the Terminal Railroad association and the Brotherhood of Railroad and Steamship Clerks here last week, $1300.16, April profits of the 10-cents a bag luggage-carrying plan, was divided between 74 Red Caps at the Union Station.

Total profits of the plan's first 30 days, the sum was distributed in proportions based on the amount of money each employe had turned in. The highest dividend paid was $62, more than the employe's basic wage of $57.60 for the four week period. Thirteen men failed to earn more than the minimum wage of $2.40 a day, it was revealed.

"Of course," one red cap said, "tips used to amount to more than $2.40 a day, but a lot of people still give a little extra."

14 Negroes Are Employed In Wonder Bread Bakery

Fourteen Negroes are employed at the Wonder Bread bakery, in Kansas City. Wonder Bread, made by the Continental Baking company, will be used at The Call's ninth annual Coking School and Homemaking Institute now in session at the St. Stephen's Baptist church, 1414 E. Fifteenth St.

The cooking school opened Thursday, April 25, and will end Saturday night, April 27.

At the Wonder Bread booth at the cooking school a comparison test will be made. All of the popular bread sold in this vicinity will be exhibited at the booth. Visitors will be invited to inspect the different brands carefully and to record their choice.

In offering this comparison test, the Continental Baking company feels that women rarely have an opportunity to see more than one kind of bread at a time and therefore are not aware of the vast difference in qualit among leading loaves.

At the cooking school, the women making the comparison test will not know the identity of the bread until after they have made their choice. Each woman will be asked to look at each slice carefully—to note its texture, its color and its crust. Then, she will be asked to feel each slice, to note its surface, its crumb and its "springiness." Third, she will be asked to smell or taste each slice, to note its aroma and flavor.

After the visitor has done these things, she will be asked which slice of bread she preferred. She will give the number whereupon the slice will be identifid by the corresponding number on the wrapped loaf from which it was taken.

The Negroes employed by the Continental Baking company are: W. A. Ware, 1118 E. 23rd St.; Julius Brown, 938 Oakland, Kansas City, Kas.; J. R. McDavid, 2727 Vine; Alphonzo Greene, 1100 Paseo; C. S. Anderson, 1920 East 26th St.; J. A. Neaves, 2415 Tracy; Dewey Shepherd, 2328 Brooklyn; Ray Palmer, 1101 Garfield; R. T. Williams, 1101 Woodland; W. M. Pickens, 1513 1-2 E. 18th; John Lynn, 1923 E. 14th; Edwin Miles, 1226 Harrison; O. C. Kountz, 2436 Woodland; W. E. Goodwin, 2429 Tracy.

Find Negro Does Not Have Equal Opportunity to Become Self-Supporting Citizen

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. —Recommendations of the Fact Finding committee formed after Gov. Starks State Conference on Employment Problems of the Negro, October 30, have been turned over to the Governor by members of the committee through its chairman, Dr. C. Terence Pihlblad of the University of Missouri.

In its findings the committee stated, "sufficient evidence was submitted to demonstrate that the Negro population of Missouri does not enjoy equal opportunity with the general population which would enable them to obtain self-support and provide ecoonmic development. This unsatisfactory condition under which the Negro obtains his economic needs threatens the general welfare of the whole state."

Listing the problems of the Negro, the committee mentioned his inadequate income as producing an impaired standard of living that gives rise in turn to many social and cultural problems, as well as those of an economic character. It added that no sucessful attack can be made on these resulting problems until the basic handicap of inadequate income is removed.

The basic and fundamental problems in the solution of the Negro's problem were listed as: how the Negro can hold his present job and how many new jobs and new opportunities be opened to the Negro.

One of the most important recommendations of the committee was that proposing Starks' appointment of a commission to continue the study and that its personnel be made with the advice of Lincoln university, the Missouri State Employment service, St. Louis and Kansas City Urban leagues and labor and trade groups.

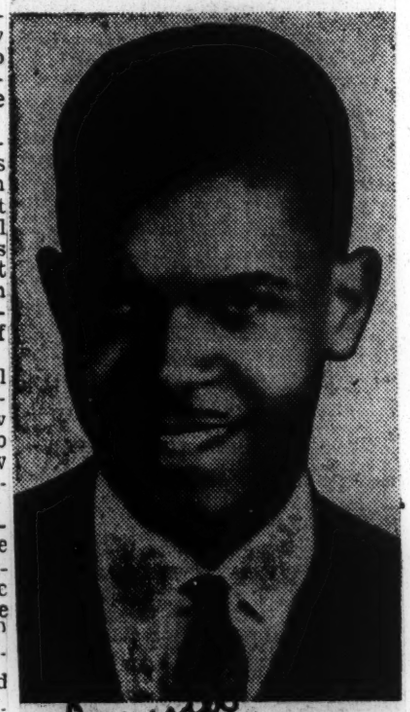
This commission would examine the economic and employment problems of the Negro population relative to: a.) agricultural workers; b.) semi-skilled and skilled workers; c.) service workers in hotels, restaurants and institutions d.) employees in state and local governmental agencies; e.) possible hindrances to the employment of Negroes in trades, professions and by the municipal and state government.

After its study, the commission would submit its report to the next Legislative assembly.

Members of the Fact Finding committee were: C. R. Kammerer St. Louis; Willia M. Kirby, Kansas City; James L. Russell, St. Louis Milton H. Oldham, Lincoln university; Mrs. Margaret C. Bush Lincoln university; James Freeman Lincoln university; Dr. C. T. Pihlblad, University of Missouri; Thomas A. Webster, Kansas City, and Dr. Hayes A. Richardson, University of Kansas City.

Through the recommendation of the committee, Kansas City has established a supplementary WPA sewing project under the direction of Mrs. Nellie Young. The project is located at the PaSeo Y.M.C.A

THE ONLY ONE



Lloyd Smith of St. Louis has a real right to be as sharp as a tack for he has the unique distinction of being the only Negro employed as a floor salesman in a downtown store. Young Smith, a graduate of Sumner high school, has for the past two years been employed at Werner-Hilton's Haberdashery, a block long store at Eighth and Oliver. His record for selling has earned him an enviable reputation.

NEGRO MANAGER IN CHARGE OF OFFICE

It has just been announced by the management of the Commonwealth Life and Accident Insurance Company that it has opened an office at 3907 Finney Avenue with James Webb as the manager.

Commenting on the new offices, Mr. Webb stated that this is one of the very few insurance companies owned by white which has an all-Negro staff in charge of an office in this city.

The Commonwealth does a general health and accident insurance business, especially suited to persons with moderate incomes.

Never Missed A Day In 50 Years

HALF A CENTURY of continuous employment, with not a single day's work missed, is the notable record that has been piled up by George Ellis Bates, veteran Negro member of the office force of the Pennsylvania Railroad's general manager in New York. In special recognition of this long and faithful service, M. W. Clement, President of the railroad, Thursday afternoon presented to Mr. Bates a commemorative 50-year gold button in the Directors' Room at Pennsylvania Station.

Nearly 39 years ago a young civil engineer, then known to his associates as "Clem" and destined later to become the Pennsylvania's chief executive, first made the acquaintance of the employee whom he is to honor. One of the duties of George Bates at that time was to make out railroad passes, and "Clem," then a rodman in the engineering department, often used to go to him to obtain passes which he required. The acquaintanceship begun then has continued to the present time.

Born in Cincinnati, George Ellis Bates will be 70 years old December 5 next. His father was for more than 40 years employed by the Pullman Company, first as one of the original sleeping car porters and later as an office messenger.

For a time young Bates, as a boy, worked with him. Later, after graduation from the Gaines High School of Cincinnati, he entered the service of the Pennsylvania Railroad, starting in June, 1890, as a messenger in the office of F. L. Sheppard, then general superintendent at Altoona, Pa.

Eight years later, when Sheppard was transferred to Jersey City, he was taken along, afterwards promoted to office work. In 1912 he was moved to the then recently opened Pennsylvania Station, New York, where he has since remained.

Outside of his railroad work, Mr. Bates' chief interests and activities have been centered in the colored Elks. In 1906 he was elected Grand Exalted Ruler of the order and from 1911 to 1928 served as its Grand Secretary, with headquarters in Newark. During those 17 years he was instrumental, by hard work on evenings and holidays and outside the hours of his railroad job, in building up the membership of the colored Elks from 4,000 to more than 100,000 with an organization expanded to over 800 lodges in different countries of the world.

Although defeated as a candidate for the New Jersey Assembly in 1924, Mr. Bates did not lose interest in public affairs. In 1932 he was appointed by Governor Morgan F. Larson to serve on the New Jersey Migrant Welfare Commission, and at the present time he is president of the Colored Voters Club of Essex County.

In 1928 he married Miss Florence Mann, of Newark, N. J., and their present home is at 225 Amherst Street, East Orange, N. J.

GEORGE ELLIS BATES GETS A MEDAL
From Penn. R. R. Prexy M. W. Clement.

To Travel For RCA Corp.

DEC 29 1940

Daily World
Atlanta Ga

Dallas A. Martin is conducting a survey among the nation's most prominent Negro educators to determine how modern audio-visual aids to education may be more widely applied to Negro schools, colleges and universities. He is traveling throughout the country for the RCA Manufacturing Company, and is prepared to lecture on a number of widely varied subjects in the fields of education and radio.

RCA Specialist To Tour Schools

DEC 29 1940

CAMDEN, New Jersey —(SNS)— More general application to Negro educational institutions of modern audio-visual developments in education is the aim of a nation-wide survey among prominent Negro educators to be conducted during 1941 by the RCA Manufacturing Company.

Daily World

Dallas A. Martin, St. Louis-born, Lincoln University-educated Negro, is soon to leave RCA Victor's Camden, N.J. headquarters on the first leg of a trip which will carry him into the executive offices and classrooms of hundreds of Negro schools, colleges and universities. The survey is being made under the direction of Ellsworth C. Dent, Director of the RCA Educational Department.

TO LECTURE ON SOUND

In addition to conducting the on-the-scene survey, Mr. Martin will lecture on such subjects as television, recorded music, how a radio receiver is built, the new RCA Electron Microscope, the uses of a school sound system, and a merchandising presentation for business students. In addition, he will use several sound-motion picture films.

Atlanta Ga

"I am tremendously enthusiastic about the possibilities of supplying modern teaching aids to our own people in our own schools," Mr. Martin said. "I have been privileged to go through the famed RCA research laboratories, tour the factories, and talk with the men who direct these activities, and I am literally overwhelmed with the far reaching technical developments that are now available to schools and colleges.

TURNS TO NEGROES

"Over a period of 30 years, RCA Victor has pioneered in the development of apparatus and teaching aids which have proved of great value to educational institutions. Now the Company has decided to expand its activities still more in this field, and to devote more attention than ever before to the Negro educational field."

Mr. Martin holds a Bachelor of Science degree in physics from Lincoln University, Jefferson City, Mo., and is a member of Kappa Alpha Psi. He has attended RCA Institutes, a radio technical school in New York, and spent several months studying radio's practical applications.

During the 1940 New York World's Fair was employed at the RCA Exhibit as receptionist for visiting Negroes. He has also visited the U. S. Office of Education and other Federal Bureaus to become acquainted with their activities in the audio-visual field.

Report of N. J. Survey Body Stresses Job Ills

NEWARK, N.J. — The 1940 report of the Hargrave Survey Commission was released, Saturday, by Bertram C. Bland, director.

It states, among other things, that: "Both the Wright Aeronautical Corportion of Paterson and the Bendix Aviation Corporation of Hackensack have received Federal Government contracts amounting to millions of dollars to build aeroplanes but both firms refuse to employ colored workers.

Freak Excuses Quoted

The report quotes some employers as stating they did not think colored would be "happy" on the job with whites.

Exclusion of colored workers from the Krueger breweries, the Paterson silk industry, and Tasty-yeast Corporation are cited.

Texaco employs none in Jersey but many in the South, according to the report, and Continental Can of Jersey City gives as an excuse for its lily-white staff, that they have "no separate sanitary facilities."

Public utilities employ few.

Union Attitudes Attacked

"The labor union movement in all parts of the United States," the report states, "is regarded by colored workers as frequently hostile to their interest," but the commission abhors Government control of labor union membership and places its hopes in "enlightened leadership within and without the labor union."

The report recommends that unions which bar on account of race not be entitled to any of the special protective legislation.

Civil Service Discussed

Attention is called to the fact that the Civil Service Law does not prohibit discrimination. In Jersey there are 165 colored persons employed by county governmental set-ups. All but fifteen are unskilled.

Newark, Elizabeth, Jersey City, Paterson and Trenton employ 290 colored persons out of a total of 13,643. Five of the cities in the State which have not adopted civil service have a higher rate of colored employment than the cities which have.

Utilities Assailed

Public utilities should be the subject of some kind of legislation establishing the ideal of merit, not color, in their employment, the report states.

In fourteen of the largest cities colored persons form 31.5 per cent of the relief load, the report states. This average varies from that in Asbury Park where colored form 70.7 per cent of relief to Paterson, where only 8.4 per cent are colored. The city percentages are:

Asbury Park, 70.7; Atlantic City, 55.9; Burlington, 28.1; Camden, 20.7; Elizabeth, 26.1; Englewood, 39.4; Hackensack, 35.8; Jersey City, 21.8; Newark, 39; New Brunswick, 27.1; Paterson, 8.4; Plainfield, 39.2; Trenton, 25.4; and Woodbury, 71.4.

The commission recommends that the State Financial Assistance Corporation have colored persons on its administrative staff.

Residential Segregation

Newark has 25,831 colored people, with 66.3 per cent of its whole colored population in the Third, Sixth, Seventh, Fourteenth and Fifteenth Wards, with 35.6 per cent in the Third Ward alone. This section is called "Newark's largest slum" where social diseases are rampant.

The report attacks hospital and nurse training facilities for the colored group, cites discrimination by insurance companies against colored risks.

"Citizens in a number of communities throughout the State do not enjoy equal educational opportunities accorded them by law," the report declares.

Segregated school facilities increased in ten South Jersey counties from 41 in 1912 to 73 in 1939.

Recommenations

The following recommendations are made by the commission:

1. Amendment of the Civil Service Law to prohibit discrimination on account of color, and to provide for the removal of appointive officials violating the prohibition.
2. Amendment of the Civil Service Law to provide against discrimination based on race in the appointment or promotion of eligibles in the labor class of Civil Service.
3. Amendment of the insurance laws to prohibit discrimination on account of race in the issuing of life insurance.
4. Further amendment of the insurance laws to prohibit discrimnation because of race in liability insurance against damage due to automobile accident.

Want Unions Checked

5. Proposals for provisions to be included in a State Labor Relations Act so as to deny the protection of the act to any union refusing to admit workers to membership on account of race or religion.
6. Proposals for study by the Legislature of regulations providing for a merit system to be instituted as part of the employment practices of public utilities.
7. An amendment of the Civil Rights Act to allow the aggrieved party to sue and recover in his or her name.
8. Recommendations to State and municipal housing officials that instant steps be taken to provide immediately for low-cost housing facilities for colored families.

Health Considered

9. Recommendations to health officials looking torward the increase of opportunities for the training of colored physicians, nurses and public health workers to attack the health problems of the colored community.
10. Recommendations to the Legislature to provide for the further investigation of the education of colored pupils in the separate schools and segregated classes in the educational system, especially the practices of establishing separate schools and segregated classes, the facilities and accommodations in the colored schools, and the enforcement of the educational law by school authorities.
11. The establishing of a permanent body to secure to the colored population equal opportunity for self-support and economic and cultural development.

School Segregation in South Jersey Increases

NEWARK, N.J.—The following table in the 1940 report of the New Jersey Temporary Commission on the Condition of the Urban Colored Population shows the growth of segregation in the South Jersey school system:

Counties	No. of Bldgs. for Colored 1920 – 1939		No. Pupils in Separate Schools	No. Pupils in Mixed Schools	Teachers
Atlantic	1	4	2,533	1,380	93
Burlington	7	12	1,175	610	40
Camden	12	14	3,202	1,166	106
Cape May	5	5	322	338	14
Cumberland	2	4	241	1,189	7
Gloucester	6	9	1,084	869	33
Mercer	5	4	1,773	1,734	52
Monmouth	6	5	973	2,428	40
Ocean	1	1	71	245	3
Salem	7	15	788	424	33
Totals	52	73	12,162	10,383	421

Newark Airport Closing Kills Grand News Source

By HARRY B. WEBBER

NEWARK, N.J.—The great Newark Airport, where a score of colored were employed as guards and porters, and through whose terminals every colored celebrity in the nation has passed, is no more.

The CAA ruled last week that the runways at the port are unsafe for transport landing and previously, Mayor Meyer C. Ellenstein of Newark announced the City of Newark would no longer finance the all important control tower. So, last week, the four major lines crossed Newark off the list of terminals and moved their base to LaGuardia Field on Long Island.

Now, both the colored employees and the white are jobless, although one company said its employees would be distributed into other terminals.

Louis Story

The action marks finis to many a breath-taking news story which broke at the Newark Airport during its life. One of the biggest was the unannounced arrival here two years ago of Joe Louis, who was on a secret mission, having something to do with boxing control. Joe acted very angrily when photographers, getting wind of his arrival, met him as he stepped off the transport. It was said, at the time, that his managers did not know where he was.

Last year with the port sheathed in rainstorm, the middle distance runner, John Borican, provided a drama of the skies long to be remembered. He had left Los Angeles less than 24 hours before, after running there, and his object was to travel the 4,000 miles, then run in Elizabeth, N.J., before the 24-hour period had elapsed.

But the transport carrying Borican could not land, due to low ceiling. So Borican bit his fingernails in rage up on high and tried in every way to make the pilot land. The ship plied between here and Camden, waiting for the landing signal. Eventually it came in and an exclusive AFRO picture of Borican leaving the plane proved how mad he was.

Grand Description

He rushed to Elizabeth only in time to see the meet let out. By that time he had recovered his congeniality. Later at a party in Orange, he showed he had not been unconscious of the scenery while up in the air waiting to land. In an expression that would credit a great artist, he described the Camden-Philadelphia Bridge as "a string of pearls across the Delaware."

The port was a celebrity center all right, because such well-known folk as Ethel Waters, Ella Fitzgerald, Chick Webb, Nina Mae McKinney, Louise Beavers, Hattie McDaniel, Francis E. Rivers. Oliver Randolph, John Roxborough, the Rev. Thomas Hartzen, Jesse Owens, and scores of others used it constantly.

Talked to Friends

In the 1936 Presidential campaign, Owens and Oliver Randolph went barnstorming in a plane up through New England and got caught in a storm, but finally landed after a few breathless experiences at the Newark Airport.

Thousands of sight-seers of all races have many times watched the planes come and go. Not the least thrill of those who met the planes was the arrangement there for them to talk by radio with the passenger before he landed.

A few times the place was the alleged scene of refusal to sell seats to colored, but no actual case was ever proved. Nearest to it was the reported refusal of a seat to Abe Manley of the Newark Eagles, but this was later denied.

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White Employees Summoned Give Queer Reasons

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Plane Makers Have "No Policy"

B-U-L-L-E-T-I-N

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Oliver Randolph, of Newark, led in the questioning which lasted from 1 p.m. until 6 p.m., in an effort to find out why employers were not using more colored workers.

This first public hearing of the commission was featured by the following:

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Dr. Edgar C. Mayhow, superintendent of Paterson General Hospital, said that hospital and admitted one colored nurse student some time ago but that she had not finished her course.

Based on this experience, he said, the policy was adopted of discouraging colored persons as student nurses.

Student Nurse Refused

He said that Mrs. J. Diffendorf, superintendent of the Nurse Training School of the hospital, had been within her rights when she refused the application of Miss Effie Chance, of Paterson, for nurse training.

Testifying later, Mrs. Diffendorf said she did not think colored girls good nurse candidates because, by their color, they were "too conspicuous."

"Too Conspicuous"

She also said colored people were "peculiar." This brought laughter from the crowded courtroom. By this term, she explained, she meant they were too noticeable in a hospital environment.

"One of the qualities of our nurses is that they do not make themselves conspicuous. Colored people, by their pigment, are naturally conspicuous," she testified.

Suggests Change of Law

Mr. Randolph told both witnesses the commission would recommend an amendment to the civil rights law, withholding State monies from institutions which so discriminate.

Mrs. Diffendorf said most of her white grads were employable and questioned whether colored grads would be equally so in Paterson.

Both she and Dr. Mayhow were quite assured in their testimony. Mrs. Diffendorf said there was no use to accept colored applicants "when we can get all the white ones we want."

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13 Others Testify

Others who testified were:

F. C. Muller, of Bendix Aviation Corporation; S. Buckner, manager of Aidiger and Meyer Silk Company; Louis Roth of Barnett Memorial Hospital; Mr. Van Sickle, manager of N.J. State Employment Service of Hackensack;

Miss DuBrow, of the Textile Workers' Union; Anthony Amiratto, Dyers' Local, No. 1733; James F. Mason, of Edison Vocational School; George A. Merrill, superintendent of Hackensack schools;

William Shuster, principal of Hackensack School No. 5; Miss Regina Lawlor, Paterson Relief Department; Major Ernest A. Hayes, Paterson Rescue Mission; Mr. Teachman of the Good Shepherd Union, Miss Bissett, of the Memorial Day Nursery.

Turned Down by Firms

Among the colored witnesses who had made applications to firms for work and met refusal were Miss Effie Chance, Miss Mildred Bullock and Hatcher Norris of Paterson.

Members of the commission who participated in the questions were its chairman, Assemblyman Frank Hargrave, of Orange; Dr. Leroy Morris, of Trenton; Mrs. Evelyn Brock, of Westfield William Galloway, of Rutherford; Roger M. Yancey, attorney of Newark, assistant counsel; and Mrs. Elizabeth Blake, of Woodbury.

Says No One Applied

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The commission cited three applicants with their qualifications but Mr. Muller did not recall their applying. He invited members of the commission to confer with the board of directors and map out a plan on this matter.

Deny Discrimination

Mr. Merrill and Mr. Shuster of Hackensack said that although most of the pupils in School No. 5 were colored, there was no attempt at discrimination in the school system.

Mr. Van Sickle said that colored applicants to the State Employment Service were not always directed to domestic jobs alone. He said he had just recently placed one as a statistician.

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2. F. G. Muller of the Bendix Aviation corporation agreed to have his board of directors meet in a similar conference with the commission on this same subject within the same 10 days.

3. Dr. Edgar C. Mayhow of Paterson General hospital said that hospital had admitted one Race student nurse some time ago but that she had refused to continue her course. Based on this experience, he testified, the policy was adopted of discouraging members of the Race as nurse students.

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Mr. Randolph told both witnesses the commission would recommend an amendment to the Civil Rights law withholding state moneys from institutions which so discriminated.

3. Richard Monsaert, manager and E. M. Doewing, treasurer, of Puritan Piece Dye works said they would hire no Race workers because they feared it would lead to "race rioting."

Speak For Internes

4. Dr. Louis Roth of Bernett Memorial hospital said that institution would accept Race interns if same were passed by the Passaic County Medical association. However, he doubted if the white interns who now lived together in the hospital would accept Race interns as roommates.

5. George A. Merrill, superintendent of Hackensack schools and William Shuster, principal of school No. 5 in Hackensack, agreed that although most of the pupils in school No. 5 were of the Race, there was no attempt at discrimination within the system.

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LABOR- 1940
OCCUPATION, WAGES, ETC.

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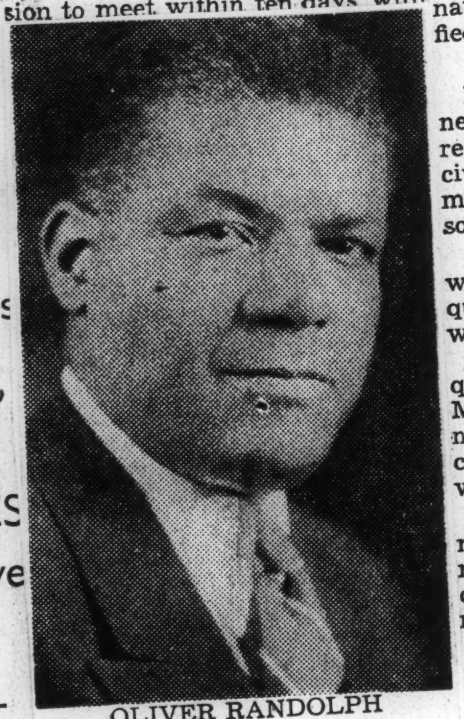

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3. Richard Monsaert, manager and E. M. Doewing, treasurer, of Puritan Piece Dye works said they would hire no Race workers because they feared it would lead to "race rioting."

Speak For Internes

4. Dr. Louis Roth of Bernett Memorial hospital said that institution would accept Race interns if same were passed by the Passaic County Medical association. However, he doubted if the white interns who now lived together in the hospital would accept Race interns as roommates.

5. George A. Merrill, superintendent of Hackensack schools and William Shuster, principal of school

6. Mr. Van Sickle of the N. J. State Employment service at Hackensack said that Race applicants in No. 5 were of the Race, there was no attempt at discrimination within the system.

7. James F. Mason of Edison Vocational school said that in spite of a lack of possible employment when they finished.

Mr. Teachman of the Good Shepherd Mission testified that in seven years his mission had sheltered only one member of the Race—a man hired as a cook.

HOSPITAL WORKER TO DEMAND JOB HEARING

Amsterdam News

Charging his firing was based on the prejudiced efforts of the laundry service supervisor at Harlem Hospital to replace the Negro workers with whites, Robert Montgomery, 36 St. Nicholas Pl., sought a Civil Service hearing this week following his dismissal last Wednesday by Dr. Magelaner, medical superintendent.

According to Montgomery, Dr. Magelaner called him into the office, questioned him concerning a recent visit of the laundry service worker to a local newspaper office and, when Montgomery admitted having made the visit, told him he was through.

Inquiries by The Amsterdam News at the Dept. of Hospitals as to Mongomery's right to a hearing on his dismissal brought the reply that any such discharge is final and without appeal.

At Harlem Hospital, all questions on the subject were referred to the central office, institution officials declaring they had no authority to dicuss the matter. Dr. Magelaner himself was reported away for a few days.

Interviewed by The Amsterdam News. Montgomery declared that ever since his appointment last November 1, he has seen the laundry service supervisor, Harry Cohen, display definite attempts to displace Negroes in his department.

His own troubles started, Montgomery said, when Mrs. Hayes, an inspector from the central office, appeared to conduct an investigation of the hospital following a succession of recent "incidents" at the institution which have provoked public comment.

A week ago Saturday, Montgomery declared, he was summoned to Dr. Magelaner's office where Mrs. Hayes, in the presence of the medical supt., asked him if he had visited the office of a local weekly. After replying truthfully in the negative, the laundry service workers said, he was dismissed.

The following Tuesday returning from his lunch 15 minutes later than usual, Montgomery said Cohen told him to take off the afternoon as punishment. Still puzzling over the inquiry about his visit to the newspaper office, Montgomery revealed he decided to make the visit and ascertain for himself "just what things were all about."

It was on the following day, Wednesday, that he was again called into Dr. Magelaner's office and asked again if he had visited the newspaper office. Replying this time that he had done so the day before seeking to learn more about the matter, Montgomery declared that Dr. Magelaner immediately informed him he was no longer working.

Declaring that he had taken a civil service exam for the job and had been certified, Montgomery insisted that his discharge without a hearing was "illegal" and announced his intention of appealing to the Municipal civil service commission.

Urge Skilled Negro Workmen To Apply For Civil Service Exams For Jobs On Subway

Through its Department of Industrial Relations, the National Urban League this week inaugurated a special drive to induce qualified Negro workers to file for Civil Service jobs as Maintainer's Helpers in the city-owned subway system. These jobs call for extraordinary physical ability and some degree of skill in one of many trades. Hundreds of vacancies are expected after unification of the city's subway systems takes place, and the positions constitute one of the principal means of entrance to a career service in the unified transit system.

Among the types of work for which men are sought are the following: Assistant to Signal Maintainers, Assistant to Telephone Maintainers, Assistant to Power Distribution Maintainers, Assistant to Light Maintainers, Assistant to Car Shop Maintainers, and Cleaners of electric power and light equipment, enclosures and buildings. Most of the work must be done under hazardous conditions.

Basic requirements for all jobs of this type include at least three years' recent satisfactory experience as a helper or mechanic. Candidates with relevant education, especially in electrical work, or who have graduated from a three or four-year day course in a recognized technical high school or college, will be admitted without further experience. Only those who have not yet reached their forty-first birthday are eligible. All candidates who pass the competitive written and physical tests will be required to pass a qualifying practical test prior to certification.

Applications will be issued between 9 a. m. and 4 p. m., until May 27, at the office of the New York City Civil Service Commission, 96 Duane street. A fee of $1.00 must accompany each application when it is filed.

WINS RIGHT OF RACE TO FULL EMPLOYMENT IN TRANSIT SYSTEM

NEW YORK, April 11.—The right of Negro workers to employment on the Brooklyn Manhattan Transit system, is assured when the City of New York takes over the line, together with the Interborough Rapid Transit line in a unification program, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People announced last week.

The announcement was made following the settlement of differences between the New York Board of Transportation, the Mayor, and the Transport Workers Union, the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, and the Brotherhood of Railway Signalmen, over assumption of existing union contracts, when unification becomes effective May 15.

Full assurance of the integration of Negro workers in the transit systems, was given to the N. A. A. C. P. by Mayor La-Guardia.

At a hearing before the board of transportation, prior to the settlement, the N. A. A. C. P. expressed its determination to fight against a contract agreement with the brotherhood unions, which comprise 1,400 subway employees on the B. M. T., on the ground that the unions have specific clauses in their constitutions barring Negro workers.

The Association made it plain that it stood for organized labor, that it intended to take no action against the T. W. U., whose leaders have always stood for full integration of Negro workers in the union, but did stand out squarely in opposition to the right of the brotherhoods to receive the benefit of a closed shop agreement with the city, which would forever close out Negroes from employment.

At the conclusion of the hearing, John H. Delaney, chairman of the board, gave the N. A. A. C. P. full assurance that no discrimination against the employment of Negroes in any category would be tolerated.

This assertion was given added strength when the Mayor phoned the N. A. A. C. P. in response to an N. A. A. C. P. telegram, stating that he would permit no discrimination in the employment of Negroes, when the city takes over the lines.

GENERAL MOTORS EMPLOYES AT WORLD'S FAIR

Courier 6-15-40 Pittsburgh, Pa

EMPLOYED AT WORLD'S FAIR HIT SHOW: Shown above are some of the staff at General Motors Highways and Horizons exhibit at the New York World's Fair, who were on duty there during the first season of the Fair. (In uniform:) J. Horne, Isaac Johnson, B. Smith, John Mitchell. (In white jackets:) Edward Barksdale, Julius Mitchell, E. Codringten, T. Withers. (Attendants:) V. Sweeney, H. Osborn, M. Smith and D. Alfred. The exhibit, which portrays the country as it may appear 20 years hence, continues to be the outstanding attraction of the Fair, with capacity audiences always in evidence.

Mapleton Cigarettes Employs Her

St. Louis Argus

May

The lovely Mrs. Margaret Black of New York has been given the honor of being the first member of her race to be employed by a cigarette company in a merchandising effort. Mapleton Cigarettes, Mrs. Black's employer, has engaged her for an indefinite period to introduce this new quality cigarette. Her position will be in the main to sample these cigarettes to members of her race. Outside of Miss Mapleton, Miss Beech-Nut has been an interesting figure in various sections of the country. The Beech-Nut sampling girls have played an important part in the popularity of Beech-Nut Gum in the better circles. It is generally conceded that the success of such products as Mapleton Cigarettes, Beech-Nut Gum, etc., may lead to a wider use of promotion of this sort by members of the race.

Facts Revealed On Employment For Negroes In N. Y.

NEW YORK.—(ANP)—Speaking to a committee appointed by the city council recently, Lester B. Granger, secretary, Committee on Negro Welfare, Welfare Council of New York City, said that "The employment opportunities for Negroes is greatest in the garment trades, longshoring, laundry work, building service, and maintenance and domestic and personal service."

Going still further, Granger declared that opportunities became increasingly narrow "in the higher job levels of skilled and technical fields, in those dominated by craft unions, closed shop and in the field of commercial and white-collar employment."

Discussing the welfare council, of which he is a member, Granger said the council was a voluntary agency composed of 1,000 public and voluntary health and welfare agencies. "It is concerned with improving the quality and quantity of welfare and health work available to the Negro and the field of employment is the major concern of the Committee on Negro Welfare."

Mr. Granger said that most of the social problems facing Negroes of this city arose from economic insecurity, which "in turn stems from lack of employment opportunities . . . In 1930 it was estimated there were 167,000 Negro employables in New York, of whom 75 per cent were classed as unskilled, semi-skilled, domestic and personal service workers. They are . . . in these fields . . . from force of circumstances . . . and because of barriers raised by many trade unions against employment or membership of Negro workers . . .

"There are large numbers of highly trained workers in the city who have never had a chance to work at their chosen occupations because it is the policy of many employers not to give Negroes a chance for skilled employment, no matter what their training and qualifications."

Figures were cited to prove that of clerical workers with more than eight years experience, only 58 per cent were employed in that occupation. Fully two-thirds of Negro young people between the ages of 16 and 24 who are out of school and seeking work were out of work.

Retail establishments came under Granger's fire as he told of the almost closed door maintained by them against Negroes. One store said to hire between 10 and 19,000 workers during a year only hired 175 Negroes during this time—and they were elevator operators, maids and cafeteria workers, "and in spite of the fact that many of these colored workers were college trained and had better references than the average white worker in the store," Mr. Granger said.

Trade union discrimination, despite publicity to the contrary, also came in for its share of condemnation. Citing a New York Times story which said 25 Negro workers in the electrical trade were thrown out of jobs which they held for from 7 to 12 years, because unions moved into the hitherto unorganized shops, signed up white workers and refused cards to Negro workers. Building trades, motion picture operators, railway unions, all were cited to prove that it was not always the employer who kept the Negro out of work.

Housing authorities in the city were blamed by Granger for the discrimination against Negro workers on housing projects, but the local authority was partly excused by Mr. Granger when he stated "it is not a question of indifference by the authority so much as it is a question of closed shop under which these projects are erected . . . to the disadvantage of the Negro worker."

Other interesting figures cited by Granger were out of 83,175 persons registered in the state employment service, 9,223 were colored. There were 4,771 placements, of whom 381 were Negroes.

Closing his talk, Mr. Granger said that "it can justly be argued that a state employment service has a responsibility for being more than a passive agent between employers seeking certain kinds of workers and the labor supply. If certain groups in the public meet with special handicaps in finding jobs through no fault of theirs, the state has a responsibility for exerting a special effort in behalf of these groups just as it does with young people, with physically handicapped, etc. Until the public service does recognize such a responsibility it tends to perpetuate, and sometimes to accentuate, the difficulties of these minority workers."

Mr. Granger was formerly connected with the National Urban league and has been interested in social work for many years. He is considered quite an authority on the problems of the Negro in Greater New York, being called on at various times to deliver talks to civic bodies.

Ask Mayor To Promote Negro Highway Boss

Mayor Bamberton is being urged by representative citizens to appoint Julian Harris, a foreman of the Asphalt Division of the Bureau of Highways, as superintendent of the division, the Tribune learned this week.

Harris, who has held his present job for the past 18 years, is a member of the International Highway Association, and has attended its quadrennial meetings—one in Munich, Germany.

One-Third Of '40 Grads To Go Jobless

ALBANY, N. Y., May 30 (ANP)—According to estimates of Dr. Arthur K. Getman of the New York State Education Department, more than 80,000 of the 250,000 boys and girls who will leave schools with diplomas next month will fail to find jobs.

Getman believes that the solution for the 80,000 lies in increased vocational training in the high schools. "The hope to make the world safe for democracy, echoed around the world 25 years ago, sounds empty indeed to modern youth," said Getman. "Their inability to obtain jobs weighs heavily on their hearts and minds."

"In our generation youth want jobs," he commented. "As yet, however, scarcely more than a beginning has been made in the enrollment of our school services to prepare pupils for productive and remunerative employment."

'its-A-Bag' 'isfavor With Red Caps

By MAJOR ROBINSON

NEW YORK—Last year at this time when you handed your bag to a redcap at Pennsylvania or Grand Central station he was the most smiling chap you had ever encountered. Hand him your suitcase today and a sour look or frown takes the place of the pleasant greeting of "Hiya today boss" you once knew.

This transformation of the human character has come about as the result of the 10-cent-a-bag-system instituted by the railroads in an effort to sidestep requirements of the wage and hour law. The rules require the travelers to pay the red cap a dime for each piece of baggage or article that he carries.

The law was put into effect Saturday at the principal New York depots much to the disgust of the porters. Ever since the transportation systems announced several months ago that this ruling would have to be put into effect they have protested vigorously. Their point in kicking was based upon the fact that their earnings on a paid basis would be greatly decreased.

Penn Higher

The rate of pay at Penn station is much higher than that of Grand Central, probably because of the heavier traffic at the former. The red cap at Penn is paid $3.12 per day while at Grand he receives $2.40. If he exceeds his daily earning the company gets the difference. If he falls below it the company has to make up the difference.

All tips above the 10 cents for each bag go to the red cap. However, the first few days the boys at both stations said that tips were few and far between.

Of the more than 50 luggage luggers that this reporter talked to only two had received a quarter tip. Earl Porter, cappie at Grand Central said that he had carried more than 40 bags in two days and had yet to see a first nickel above the flat rate. In the lounge for the red caps at Penn station, this scribe asked several what had their weekly earning on the old standing come up to and was answered by Thomas O'Neal, who has been handling people's luggage for more than 20 years.

"Why, I know the times, my boys, that I've made more than $50 a week," he said between puffs on his pipe. "Now times are changing for us but to me it doesn't seem like it's for the better. How can a man raise a family of seven on $18 a week? Under the new system we aren't encouraged to give the best that's in us to the public."

Gives Receipt

Thomas Hawkes, station master at Penn said that the new system was running smoothly and explained the system by which the red caps work.

Each one is given a book of receipts. When he carries a bag he takes the traveler's dime and tears a coupon from the book which is an official receipt for the latter. Many passengers, he explained, are in doubt as to the system and have an idea that the red cap retains the 10 cents.

Going further, he pointed out that many think the railroad is paying the red caps $2.40 daily and the carriers retain the 10 cents. In his opinion, "It is working a hardship on the men."

Coming from Chicago here to study the new system was Willard Townsend, president of the United Transport Service Employees of America, the red caps union. He said that the public has a wrong impression of the whole thing.

May Job Placements Set Record For State Employment Service; 96 Get Jobs In Harlem

ALBANY, N. Y.—The greatest number of placements in private industry in any month since 1919 were made during May by the New York State Employment Service when 25,604 applicants were returned to work, according to a report issued Friday by Industrial Commissioner Frieda S. Miller. Compared with May of last year, private placements rose 41 per cent. The 26 per cent advance in private placements over April was substantially greater than the usual seasonal rise experienced over these months by the Statet Employment Service.

Total placements in the Harlem office at 200 West 135th street were 96. Of these 83 were in private industry and 13 in public employment.

The Harlem office reported the second lowest number of placements in the Greater New York area, placing 96 persons to work out of 118 requests of employers for help. 19 openings were cancelled because the office considered the wages sub-standard or working conditions unsatisfactory.

Of those put to work from the Harlem office, the largest number obtained employment as Hoffman pressers in the garment industry with domestic work second, hotel and restaurant work third and needle trades and miscellaneous types of work accounting for the balance.

Total placements in the entire state were 28 per cent higher than in April and 23 per cent higher than in May 1939. Placements in public employment, such as WPA projects, public works and governmental institutions numbered 2,272. In addition, the Employment Service assisted in placing workers in 879 jobs. "Regular" jobs—those expected to last more than one month, constituted some what less than one-half of the private jobs filled. The 2,272 placements in public employment reflected a 70 per cent gain over April but represented only one-half the placements made in May 1939.

The special placement services conducted by the State Employment Service showed a substantial improvement during the month. The Junior Sections reversed the slight decline evident in April and made 2,544 placements of inexperienced young persons, an increase of 23 per cent over last month and 30 per cent over last year. Persons handicapped by some physical disability were placed in 636 jobs, 17 per cent more than in April and more than two and one-half times the number placed in May 1939. Veterans were placed in 795 jobs, an increase of 41 per cent over April and 21 per cent over last year.

Offices in New York City received 52 per cent of the State's openings in private industry and filled 45 per cent of the jobs in private industry and 45 per cent of those in public enterprises. As in April, a major portion of the gain in private jobs filled was made in offices outside of New York City.

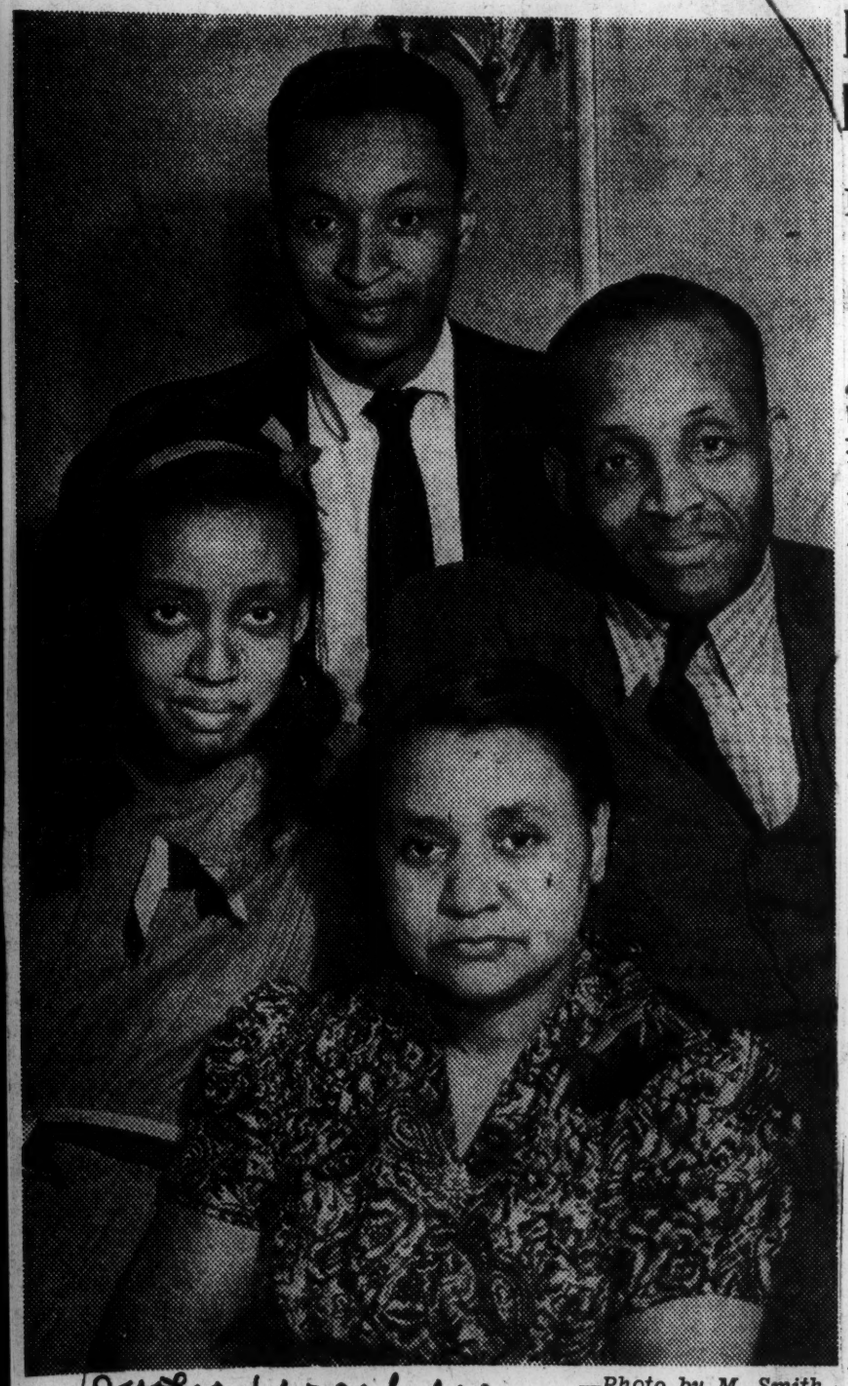
BORO'S FIRST NEGRO PROJECTIONISTS

History was made last week in the borough when the Brooklyn Regent theatre employed two Negro motion picture operators and became the first theatre in the entire borough to make a move of this nature. The above photograph taken in the Regent operators' booth, shows Manager Benjamin Resnick congratulating Egbert Bernard (left) and William Ellis (right), the two men who became Brooklyn's pioneer Negro motion picture operators. (Story in adjoining column.)

LABOR- 1940
OCCUPATION, WAGES, ETC.

NEW YORK

He Rescued 16 in Rail Crash



—Photo by M. Smith

NEGRO HERO RESCUES 16 IN TRAIN WRECK—Pictured with his family is J. A. Taylor, Negro hero, who aided 16 persons to safety from the wreck of the New York Central flier, Lake Shore Limited, last Friday. Mr. Taylor is an active member of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Employes. Three of his brother unionists died in the crash. Shown in photo are Rose, 15; James, 18; his son and daughter, and Mrs. J. A. Taylor and Mr. Taylor (right).

Honor Pullman Porter Leader Killed in Wreck

Negro Unionists Hold Funeral; Thousands Line Streets

By Lawrence Emery

Casper G. White, a charter member and for fourteen consecutive year a member of the executive board of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, died in the course of his duty last Friday when the Lake Shore Limited of the New York Central failed to take a turn near Little Falls and crashed into a twisted wreck.

Yesterday his union and hundreds of his friends paid their last tributes to him and mourned the loss of a leader who had won and held the respect of all who ever knew him.

Nearly two hundred members of the Brotherhood, in their trim blue uniforms and white gloves, assembled yesterday at noon at the Veal Undetraking Parlor on Seventh Ave. and 139th St. and formed an honor guard for the man who had led them so well.

At 1 P.M. White's body, in a burnished bronze coffin, was placed in the hearse by honorary pallbearers dressed in porter's uniforms while members of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Brotherhood banked it high with floral wreaths. A band played the hymn "Hold the Fort" in muted tones and the long procession, headed by Brotherhood officers, started its slow, measured march down Seventh Ave. while thousands lining the street on both sides paused and bared their heads as the hearse rolled past.

Flapping in the breeze at the head of the column was the green and yellow banner of the Brotherhood with its inscriptions: "Fight Or Be Slaves; On to Victory."

The funeral procession turned east on 132nd St. and marched slowly to the Bethel A.M.E. Church between Lenox and Fifth Aves. where funeral services were held.

A. Philip Randolph, president of the Brotherhood, spoke briefly in tribute to White's leadership in the organization.

Several divisions of the Brotherhood and the Pullman Porters Benefit Association presented resolutions of sympathy and regret.

Representatives of a score of Harlem churches spoke briefly at the exercises.

Mapleton Cigarettes Employs Negro

The lovely Mrs. Margaret Black of New York has been given the honor of being the first member of her race to be employed by a cigarette company in a merchandising effort.

Mapleton Cigarettes, Mrs. Blacks' employer, has engaged her for an indefinite period to introduce this new quality cigarette. Her position will be in the main, to sample these cigarettes to members of her race.

Outside of Miss Mapleton, Miss Beech-Nut has been an interesting figure in various sections of the country. The Beech-Nut sampling girls have played an important part in the popularity of Beech-Nut Gum in the better circles.

The success of such products as Mapleton Cigarettes, Beech-Nut Gum, etc., may lead to a wider use of promotions of this sort which are highly regarded and deeply appreciated inasmuch as they not only introduce us to better products, but do so in a way which is most pleasing, while furnishing a new and better type of employment for our people.

Negro Hero of Rail Crash Tells Own Story

'All in Day's Work' J. A. Taylor Tells Daily Worker of Rescue of 16 Passengers—Three Brother Unionists Were Killed

By Lawrence Emery

Modesty goes with true heroism.

James A. Taylor, Negro Pullman worker on the New York Central Lake Shore Limited which sped into a fatal crash at Little Falls last Friday, rescued 16 passengers in his car but regards it as no great deed and all a part of the day's work.

Taylor, who is 44-years-old and lives with his wife Rose and two children, James, Jr., 18, and Rose, 15, at 400 W. 150th St., shuns publicity and was reluctant to talk about the rescue work which earned him praise from those he helped, from company officials and from his union, the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters.

A porter since 1921, Taylor was on his regular run last Friday and quit work sometime after 11 P. M., although he had been free to quit at 10 o'clock. He was in the fourth Pullman car back of the coaches.

AWAKENED BY CRASH

He had just gone to bed and was dozing when he felt "a strong vibration through the car. I knew the train was coming to a quick stop and I jumped out of bed and started dressing as fast as I could.

"Then the crash came. It was like a tremendous crack of thunder coming after a stroke of sharp lightning. There were two or three sounds like that, and I feared the car was going to turn over and then everything settled down and was quiet."

Taylor's car had been lifted and sliced sideways between two others and came to rest at a crazy angle but did not topple over.

"I guess I was thrown around quite a bit, but I don't remember any of what happened in that instant. As soon as the car came to a stop I broke a window and jumped out to see what had happened and where we were. I hadn't finished dressing, but I only stopped to tie my shoes and then went back inside to see about the passengers."

There were 13 adults and 2 children in Taylor's Pullman. Most of them had been sleeping, and all of them had been badly shaken and jolted, but there were no injuries.

"After the first excitement," Taylor stated, "they were very calm. I never witnessed such a calm bunch of people.

WENT RIGHT TO WORK

"I went right to work and I mean I worked. I was soaking wet with perspiration in no time, and I got all those passengers outside as quickly as possible. All of them went out through the window I smashed.

"I helped them all, and I got all the baggage out and then I took my blankets and bedding and put it outside for the children."

Taylor is full of admiration for the manner in which most of the passengers behaved.

"Once the crash was over none of them seemed frightened. And when they got outside all of them were kidding all the time. There was one man who lost his coat and I offered him mine, but he said 'No, porter, you keep your coat.'"

Taylor was fairly certain that he had all his passengers outside safely, but went back to make sure, and found that one, Father Farley, had been trapped in a compartment when the door to it was jammed closed. He summoned some help and finally wrenched the door open.

As soon as he had done all that could be done in his own car, Taylor ran up ahead to the more badly damaged cars to offer his services there. But by then rescue crews and firemen had arrived and he was not needed.

FINDS WHITE DEAD

But he had climbed to the top of one of the Pullmans that was on its side, and he had shone a light inside it and there he found the body of porter Caspar G. White, a charter member of the Brotherhood, a member of its executive board for 14 consecutive years, and a close friend of Taylor's for fifteen years.

"When I saw his body there," Taylor says, " I realized for the first time that night how close we all had come to death. And as I looked at White, I knew that it had been just a stroke of luck, or whatever it can be called, that I had not been assigned to that car instead of to my own."

White will be buried today and Taylor will march in the Brotherhood ranks at the funeral.

When it was all over that night Taylor was dead tired and aching all over and discovered that somehow, somewhere, he had injured his knee.,

"I can't remember when or how it happened," he says. "You don't think about anything at a time like that; you just do what has to be done. You think of yourself last."

X-rays of the knee show no fracture, but Taylor is under doctor's care.

Mrs. Taylor says that she had a slight feeling that Friday night that something might happen, but gave it little thought. But the next morning, before the family had bought a paper, a reporter called at the house and informed them of what had happened and that Mr. Taylor had been a hero.

GAY HOMECOMING

"My wife was told that I wasn't hurt, but she worried just the same," Taylor says. "She said she knew me well enough to know that even if I had been hurt, I would have behaved just as I did."

And as a matter of fact, Taylor had performed his work under the most painful and difficult conditions, because he had only recently undergone an operation and is still wearing a stiff, tightly-strapped belt around his body which restricted his movements.

Taylor rode in the rescue train that night to Utica, and then came on to New York from there. He arrived home in the afternoon the day after the wreck and it was a gay reunion when his family knew that he had come through.

It was the first wreck Taylor has ever been in, and he hopes that it is the last.

He does not know when he will go on his run again; he must wait until he knows his knee is all right.

Now he is a bit perturbed by his name in the papers and the acclaim for him. "Too much publicity may not be good," he says.

But his union, his family, his people, and all who know about him are proud today. To him it may have been "part of the day's work," but a hero is a hero and Taylor has earned the title.

Hunger Hits Harlem: Thousands Crowd Job Agencies Seeking Domestic Work

HARLEM'S BIG PROBLEM: JOBS—Left, girls waiting for domestic work. If they find a post, it means unbelievably low wages, endless hours, revolting conditions. At right, one of Harlem's many employment agencies. They offer few jobs, but thousands crowd them all day every day. —Sunday Worker Photos

Employment Agencies Offer Few Jobs, All of Them at Low Wages, Endless Hours

By Angelo Herndon

With the roaring of cannon and the destruction of millions of lives on the battlefields of Europe and the wholesale slashing of relief and WPA jobs by the Roosevelt administration, the situation of domestic employes in Harlem has reached a new critical stage.

Hundreds of thousands of Harlem domestics have always found it difficult to obtain employment at half-way decent pay even during times of peace and relative prosperity.

Since the outbreak of the war, a formidable army of domestic job seekers, including young girls and boys of 14 and 15 years of age, college graduates, skilled industrial workers and professionals, are to be found every day of the week stampeding the offices of the 14 or more private employment agencies in Upper Harlem.

GOOD BAROMETER

This endless search for jobs by domestics is a fairly good barometer of the serious job problem affecting workers in all categories.

The voluminous increase in daily applications for such employment serves to emphasize in a most striking way the fact that the few menial jobs formerly held by Negroes in department stores and some of the big utilities are rapidly disappearing.

Records of private employment agencies also reveal that a large percentage of technically trained workers, among whom are recently discharged WPA employes, have been added to the already long list of domestic job seekers. Other information gathered from employment agencies presents an even more serious picture with respect to jobs for Negroes. As employment becomes ever more scarcer for all workers, Negroes are constantly being shoved back into the domestic category with less and less possibility of obtaining jobs in any other field.

SCANDALOUS WAGES

Wages paid by the rich plutocrats to domestic workers are so scandalously low that many simply refused to hire themselves out.

A young Negro lad, standing in front of Gordon's Employment Agency, 200 W. 135th St., shouted with anger and indignation—"What the hell do they think we are, slaves?" when he saw an attractive sign written in red letters offering a job to a "couple for $55 a month."

As he searched on hopefully through the other advertisements for a better offer, he read:

"Chauffeur—light-colored, $15 a week," "plain cook—sleep out, $10 a week and carfare," "plain cook—sleep out, $8.60 a week," "counter girl—short orders, $7 a week and tips—9:30 to 6:30 P.M."

The last offer was too much for him. As he started to walk off, he said in final disgust, "To hell with all of them. I wouldn't sell myself for no such price."

COMPELLED TO ACCEPT

But his disgust and anger would hardly have the effect of changing matters for there are thousands who are compelled by force of circumstances to hire themselves out for just such prices and less.

At some 14 employment agencies, scattered throughout the Upper Harlem area, the following choice offers of jobs, representing some of the best available, were displayed with neat prominence:

Dillard's Employment Agency, 170 W. 135th St.: "Hand launderer, $3.20 per week"; "General house work, $30 per month."

Southern Exchange Employment Agency, 165 W. 131st St.: "Rack girl, billiard parlor, $8.70 a week."

Audubon Employment Agency, 236 W. 135th St.: "Light colored girl, sleep out, general house work, $11.60 a week"; "Good plain cook—man—five days a week, $6."

The above jobs, which are plas-

tered in front of the offices of all employment agencies, are indicative of the frightful slave conditions under which domestic workers are forced to toil.

VICIOUS SYSTEM

Rich ladies and bankers who are too lazy to look after themselves and their children not only have an understanding among themselves, but are very well organized in keeping down the wages of their servants. The system is so vicious that some of the agencies who are in the business primarily for cash returns are compelled to turn down many requests for maids, nurses, cooks and general house workers.

Showing how the employers try to divide Negro workers on the basis of their color, the head of one employment agency said:

"I've been in this business now for 20 years, and I've found it almost impossible to secure placements for very dark Negroes. Rich white ladies from down town call me up and insist that I get them a 'light' man or a 'light' woman who will be 'presentable' to the public.

"There is enough provocation from these prejudiced people to keep me battling all day long."

FEW JOBS

Discussing actual placements and applications for jobs, he said an average of 100 persons apply at his office every day of whom approximately 25 are sent out. Only about ten out of the 25 are likely to be hired for a week, several months or longer. My average minimum wage, he said, is $35 a month, "and I wouldn't even consider any offer for less."

According to this informant, thousands of persons who apply annually for jobs never get them, even if they are willing to work for the lowest price. Many are rejected on the basis of color and for some minor flaw which does not conform with the rigorous policy of furnishing proper and sufficient reference information.

While this startling information does not give a complete picture of the present employment status of Harlem domestics, it is sufficiently representative to indicate the seriousness of the job problem facing Negroes.

NEED JOB DRIVE

One thing is abundantly clear: the imperialist war in Europe is no boon for the employment of Negroes, as is maintained by certain Negro leaders. On the contrary, the increasingly large numbers of persons who are willing to pay $3 and $6 for jobs to private employment agencies, is indisputable proof of the devastating way in which Negroes are already suffering from the imperialist war.

If private agencies are swamped with demands for jobs that can not be found, how do matters stand with state employment agencies that follow a policy of discrimination in the securing of jobs for Negroes?

With a set policy of the big utilities of barring Negroes from jobs, except floor sweeping and the like, and the fact that the domestic field is becoming more and more the only source of livelihood for the Negro people, it seems that the time is now appropriate for the launching of a real job campaign by all civic, trade unions and other organizations of Harlem.

Back After Successful Trip

Above photo shows Eneil F. Simpson, National Old Drum Supervisor for Calvert Distillers Corporation, and John Henry Lewis, undefeated light heavyweight champion of the world, also representing Calvert's, who have just returned to New York City, after conducting successful campaigns in Chicago, Indianapolis, St. Louis, Asbury Park and Atlantic City. Mr. Simpson reports that the complete cooperation they received from tavern owners, bartenders, waiters and waitresses throughout the country has been responsible for Calvert's Old Drum showing an increase in sales far in excess of 23 1/3% for the past year. Calvert's policy of employing Negroes in key cities throughout the country clearly demonstrates that those of our group will support any organizations that cater to us in this manner, and further points out what we may hope to accomplish if we will bind ourselves to cater only to those who are willing to give us something in return for their support.

HARLEMITE RESCUES FIFTEEN PASSENGERS

By A. M. WENDELL MALLIET

Acclaimed as the greatest hero of the tragic wreck of the Lake Shore Limited, New York Central Railroad's crack New York-Chicago flyer, James A. Taylor, Sr., Pullman porter, told The Amsterdam News in an exclusive interview Saturday that he was surprised when he saw the articles in the newspapers about his rescue of 15 passengers in the wreck.

Taylor, who is 44 and who lives with his wife Rose and two children, James, Jr., and Rose Vashti at 400 W. 150th St., declared: "I only did what any other human being would have done under the circumstances."

The wreck of the fast flyer occurred late Friday night at Little Falls, N. Y., resulting in the death of 30 passengers, serious injury to 40 others and slight injuries to more than 100.

3 Negroes Killed, 5 Injured

Three Negroes were killed and five injured in the wreck. They were Caspar C. White and J. L. Johnson, Pullman porters, and Cornelius McKnight, train porter of Buffalo. White lived with his wife and three children at 801 E. 168th St., and Johnson lived at 1072 Teller Ave., with his wife, Ruth. Johnson's body will be taken to Little Rock, Ark., his native home, for burial. White, who was rated as one of the best porters on the road for more than 15 years, was buried Wednesday in New York City.

Mrs. Ruth Taylor of 147 Bainbridge St., Bklyn., was injured in the wreck and is in a hospital in Little Falls.

Taylor Tells Story of Week

"My first thought was of my Maker as I was awakened by a violent lurching motion and the dreadful vibrations of the train," Taylor said, adding: "The impact of cars and coaches gave the sound of crying steel being ground down. I went to sleep in my car, No. 135, the "Pullar Dome," between 11 and 11:30 Friday night, and just as I dozed off, I heard and felt the effects of the wreck.

"I was on my feet in a minute, and by the time I could pull my trousers and coat on, the train and coaches had left the track, some tumbled over and were completely wrecked, and others, like mine, leaned on their sides, ready to crash in a minute.

"All the lights went out and there was utter confusion. I tried to escape, but had to break a window through which I could begin the rescue of passengers. I asked them to keep their heads and told them that they would be safe. With the exception of a three-year-old infant, the 15 passengers in my car remained calm. I then carried the two children and led five women out of the window to the ground below and helped eight men to safety.

"A strange piece of luck or whatever you call it, was the case of a priest, Father Farley of Garrison, N. Y., who took reservation in one of the front cars and changed to mine late Friday. Had he remained in the front cars he would surely have been killed because those cars were completely wrecked.

"The only time I was nervous was when the car was vibrating and when I saw the body of Casper White. He had been an old friend of mine for many years. We worked together for about 15 years, and he was one of the best porters on the system. He was a porter on the Twentieth Century Limited. But after I got over the shock of seeing my pal dead I took everything as in a day's work.

"Among the 15 passengers in my car were Mr. and Mrs. Proctor of Toledo, O., and Mrs. Gordon R. Ahrson and her two sons, Gordon, Jr., 6, and Donald, 3. My car was the only one in which rescue work could have been undertaken.

"The cars in front were completely wrecked and the cars behind were not damaged, but were only derailed."

A Negro bishop, whose name has not been ascertained and who was said to have been on his way to Pasadena, Calif., was said to have been slightly injured and to have come to N. Y. City.

Although it is not known what form of recognition will be given to Taylor as a reward for his heroism, C. W. T. Curry, New York Central official, told The Amsterdam News: "Taylor did a wonderful job up there. Due credit will be given him in due time." Taylor said District Superintendent J. Bryce of the Pullman Company visited him in the emergency hospital at Grand Central Station Saturday and said: "Taylor, I am certainly proud of you. The company will be notified of your heroism."

The hero porter is suffering from a sprained right knee, which he received in the accident.

Taylor joined the Pullman service on June 15, 1921, and has been on the New York-Chicago run since last October. He was born in Henderson, N. C.

THREE PORTERS DIE, ONE A HERO IN TRAIN WRECK

LITLE FALS, N. Y.—Three Negro porters, all New Yorkers, lost their lives when the New York-Chicago Lake Shore Limited express train was wrecked here Saturday, costing the lives of 25 passengers.

The dead are: Casper C. White, New York; Cornelius McKnight, Buffalo; J. L. Johnson, New York.

A Pullman porter, J. A. Taylor, proved a hero in the wreckage, rescuing a score of passengers in his car.

J. A. Taylor of New York, was hurled to the aisle when the nine cars and locomotive were derailed. Quieting the fears of women and children in his car, Taylor found his way through the debris to the rear door of the Pullman car. As the exit was blocked, he smashed a rear window and lowered the passengers to safety, one by one.

Negro in Civil Service

It is fortunate for Negroes in Civil Service that there is an appeals board to which they can take their grievances with some hope of redress. While this board cannot rectify all the abuses heaped upon Negroes by prejudiced officials, yet it will most certainly serve to keep the evils at a minimum.

The case of Mrs. Olive H. B. Smith is a case in point. A supervisor in the department of welfare, Mrs. Smith was suspended early this year on grounds of inefficiency after several months in office during which time it is said her work was entirely satisfactory.

Determined not to take the slap lying down, Mrs. Smith began immediately gathering evidence and data concerning her records, preparatory to appealing the case to the review board. Meanwhile, The Amsterdam News was focusing attention of the public on the subtle operations of certain officials in the welfare department, and of certain regulations which worked to the disadvantage of Negroes.

It appeared that Mrs. Smith was the victim of a "fast play," and that efforts were being made to railroad her out of the department. She would now be out had it not been for the impartial review by the board of appeals, and the constant vigilance of the public and the press.

It may seem a long and tedious task, and sometimes it may seem the easier way out to accept defeat and withdraw rather than fight and suffer humiliation and embarrassment, but we feel that finally the ends of justice will be better served if we fight to a finish when we think we have been mistreated. We regard the victory for Mrs. Smith as a victory for the Negro in his fight for fair-play in Civil Service, and thus we urge every other person to take full advantage of all agencies available in his struggle to escape the pressure of Jim Crowism, discrimination and prejudice.

They Honor Union Brother Killed in Wreck

The hearse bearing the body of Caspar G. White, Pullman porter killed in the wreck of the Lake Shore Limited last Friday, as it moved slowly down Seventh Ave. yesterday. Flanking it are the honorary pallbearers in their trim blue porter's uniforms. White was a charter member of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters and was a member of its executive board for fourteen years.

Daily Worker Photo

Pepsi-Cola to Assist Youth by Job Awards

NEW YORK—A new milestone in American business was marked here on Monday when the Pepsi-Cola Company introduced its system of business internship for college students seeking to enter the business world, in the form of Walter Mack Job Awards.

The plan calls for the granting of a group of business fellowships in the form of salaried jobs. Each award is for a year at a salary of $1300 and the winners will receive training in jobs created for them, where possible, in the departments of their own choosing.

Jobs May Be Permanent

"At the end of the year," according to Walter Mack, president of the Pepsi-Cola company, "the group will either be taken into the regular organization on a permanent basis, or assisted to make connections with other business organizations. The entire group of jobs, thus vacated, will then be given to the winners in next year's graduating classes."

The plan, which is in commemoration of a thirty-five years' celebration of the bottling of his company's product was launched at a luncheon at LaGuardia Field with Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt and Mayor Fiorello LaGuardia, president of the U.S. Conference of Mayors, among the speakers. among the speakers.

The winners of the job awards plan, who are being chosen from among applicants in colleges throughout the country were guests of the company at the luncheon.

Among the colleges participating in the plan are:

Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, Miner Teachers' College, Morehouse College, Georgia State College, Kentucky State Industrial College, Morgan College, Allen University, Benedict College, S.C. State A. and M., Lane College;

Knoxville College, LeMoyne College, Fisk University, Jasvis Christian College, Wiley College, Prairie View State College, Virginia State College for Negroes, Hampton Institute, Virginia Union University, Bluefield State Teachers' College.

Among the first thirteen persons to receive awards were: Jeannette Maund, 29, of Worcester, Mass., graduate of Hampton Institute, and Allen Lee McKellar, 21, of Abbeville, S.C., graduate of State Agricultural and Mechanical College, Orangeburg South Carolina.

First Lady Sorry Porter Didn't Say He Was Underpaid

New York, Sept. 13 (AP).—Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt is grieved because a Cincinnati red-cap didn't tell her she'd underpaid him by 20 cents through an oversight.

In her column, "My Day," she wrote today:

"It seems that I have to read the papers to find out about my shortcomings! I must say, many as they are, novel ones creep up on me all the time. Yesterday I found a little item announcing that in Cincinnati, at an Interstate Commerce Commission hearing, a porter testified that I had paid him 50 cents for a 70-cent service and that he had not told me of my mistake.

"What grieves me is that he did not tell me, for I have always doubted whether the new rule of 10 cents a bag gave the porters sufficient pay. Therefore, I thought that I had always paid not only my 10 cents a bag, but a tip in addition."

The Cincinnati porter testified in a hearing to determine whether the method of paying 10 cents a parcel for luggage handling is contrary to the interstate commerce laws.

SEVENTEEN REDCAPS EXONRATED COMPLETELY BY PENN. RAILROAD

Seventeen red-caps, employees of the Pennsylvania Railroad, who had been suspended or dismissed on charges of failure to give receipts or offer change and who were later reinstated, enjoyed complete exoneration this week.

The porters were cleared when each one received a letter from D. Y. Geddes, superintendent of the New York Zone of the system. Geddes' letters came in reply to individual appeals from the men in which they requested a reversal of the verdict of Trainmaster Howell which subjected them to a ten-day suspension with loss of pay and seniority rights.

In his decision, Geddes said, "On October 17, 1940, you presented an appeal to me from discipline imposed upon you in accordance with G-32 Notice of Discipline, dated September 28, 1940.

"It appearing evident that the procedure to have followed under instructions to Station Porters issued June 1, 1940, was either misinterpreted or misunderstood by you, the disciplinary action in this case is hereby reversed. Your record will be cleared accordingly.

"You must familiarize yourself with current instructions and comply fully therewith."

In all probability, the exonerated employees will be reimbursed for the time of their suspension as under law they are supposed to sustain no loss of time or seniority because of a decision which is subsequently reversed.

Seven Race People Listed Among 'World Fair' Troopers

Negroes Holding Down Positions of Importance on Basis of Merit and Fitness.

By MORGEN S. JENSEN
Staff Correspondent

NEW YORK, May 30.—Visitors to New York's World's Fair of 1940 will probably be greatly surprised to learn that several colored persons hold positions of considerable importance—positions other than those of the menial variety.

Among those holding responsible jobs at the Fair are seven full-fledged members of the police force. These troopers are in no way "jim crowed." Assigned to different shifts, the nattily-attired officers assist in enforcing law and order throughout all areas of the exhibit, the same as their white associates.

Selected on their merit and upon their pre-determined fitness to greet the public in a courteous, tactful and informative manner, the seven troopers are:

DOROTHY E. DANIELS, graduate of Hunter college, New York City.

EARLE H. CHARLES, native of St. Thomas, Virgin Islands; graduate College of the City of New York; of the Army Extension school, Washington, D.C., and of DeWitt Clinton high school, New York City; former post office clerk; 1st Lieut. U.S. National Guard, on duty as battalion adjutant, 2nd Battalion, 369th Infantry, New York National Guard.

ALFRED C. DINZEY, graduate Alexander Hamilton high school, New York City.

LORENZO F. DAVIS, graduate Howard university, Washington, D.C.; DeWitt Clinton high school, New York City, and for two years in Reserve Officers' training corps.

OLIVER A. AUSTIN, law clerk; graduate New York university and of Roosevelt high school, Yonkers, N.Y.

THOMAS L. WILLIS, graduate DeWitt Clinton high school, New York City.

NEGRO LINOTYPIST OF N. Y. TIMES ON VACATION

NEW YORK, June 20 (ANP)—Julian B. Thomas, only Negro linotypist employed on the New York Times, has returned to the city following his annual vacation spent in the midwest. Mr. Thomas who has been a linotypist for the Times since 1930, became a member of the New York Typographical Union No. 6 in 1925 several years after graduating from Tuskegee.

LESTER GRANGER GIVES FACTS ON NEGRO EMPLOYMENT IN N.Y.C.

NEW YORK, June 13—(ANP)—Speaking to a committee appointed by the city council recently, Lester B. Granger, secretary, committee on Negro Welfare Council of New York City, said that "The employment opportunities for Negroes are greatest in the garment trades, longshoring, laundry work, building service, and maintenance and domestic and personal service."

Going still further Granger declared that opportunities became increasingly narrow "in the higher job levels of skilled and technical fields, in those dominated by craft unions, closed shop and in the field of commercial and white-collar employment."

Discussing the welfare council, of which he is a member, Granger said the council was a voluntary agency composed of 1,000 public and voluntary health and welfare agencies. "It is concerned with improving the quality and quantity of welfare and health work available to the Negro and the field of employment is the major concern of the Committee on Negro Welfare."

Economic Insecurity Factor

Mr. Granger said that most of the social problems facing Negroes of this city arose from economic insecurity, which "in turn stems from lack of employment opportunities. . . . In 1930 it was estimated there were 167,000 Negro employables in New York, of whom 75% were classed as unskilled, semi-skilled, domestic and personal service workers. They are . . . in these fields . . . from force of circumstances . . . and because of barriers raised by many trade unions against employment or membership of Negro workers . . .

"There are large numbers of highly trained workers in the city who have never had a chance to work at their chosen occupations because it is the policy of many employers not to give Negroes a chance for skilled employment, no matter what their training and qualifications."

Two Thirds Jobless

Figures were cited to prove that of clerical workers with more than eight years experience, only 58% were employed in that occupation. Fully two-thirds of Negro young people between the ages of 18 and 24 who are out of school and seeking work were out of work.

Retail establishments came under Granger's fire as he told of the almost closed door maintained by them against Negroes. One store said to hire between 10 and 19,000 workers during a year only hired 175 Negroes during this time—and they were elevator operators, maids and cafeteria workers, "and in spite of the fact that many of these colored workers were college trained and had better references than the average white worker in the store," Mr. Granger said.

Trade union discrimination, despite publicity to the contrary, also came in for its share of condemnation. Citing a New York Times story which said 25 Negro workers in the electrical trade were thrown out of jobs which they held from 7 to 12 years, because unions moved into the hitherto unorganized shops, signed up white workers and refused cards to Negro workers. Building trades, motion picture operators, railway unions, all were cited to prove that it was not always the employer who kept the Negro out of work.

CHIEF CLERK

Holding down a job of con siderable importance at the New York World's Fair is Augustu Fleet, chief information clerk a Entrance four of the administra building. This is Mr Fleet's fourth year with the Fai Corporation. — Exclusive phot courtesy World's Fair press bu reau.

Railroad Co. Presents Commemorative Button To George E. Bates, Employe For Fifty Years

Half a century of continuous employment, with not a single day's work missed, is the notable record which has been piled up by George Ellis Bates, veteran Negro member of the office force of the Pennsylvania Railroad's general manager in New York. In special recognition of this long and faithful service M. W. Clement, president of the railroad, on Thursday afternoon, June 13, presented to Mr. Bates a commemorative 50-year gold button. The ceremony took place at 3:30 p. m. in the director's room at Pennsylvania Station.

Nearly 39 years ago a young civil engineer, who was then known to his associates as 'Clem" but who was destined later to become the Pennsylvania's chief executive, first made the acquaintance of the employee whom he is honored. One of the duties of George Bates at that time was to make out railroad passes and Clem, then rodman often used to go to him to obtain passes which he required. The acquaintanceship begun then has continued to the present time.

Born in Cincinnati, George Ellis Bates will be 70 years old on December 5 next. His father was for more than 40 years employed by the Pullman Company, first as one of the original sleeping car porters and later as an office messenger.

For a time young Bates, as a boy worked with him. Later, after graduation from the Gaines High School of Cincinnati, he entered the service of the Pennsylvania Railroad, starting in June, 1890, as a messenger in the office of F. L. Sheppard, then general superintendent at Altoona, Pa.

At Station Since 1912

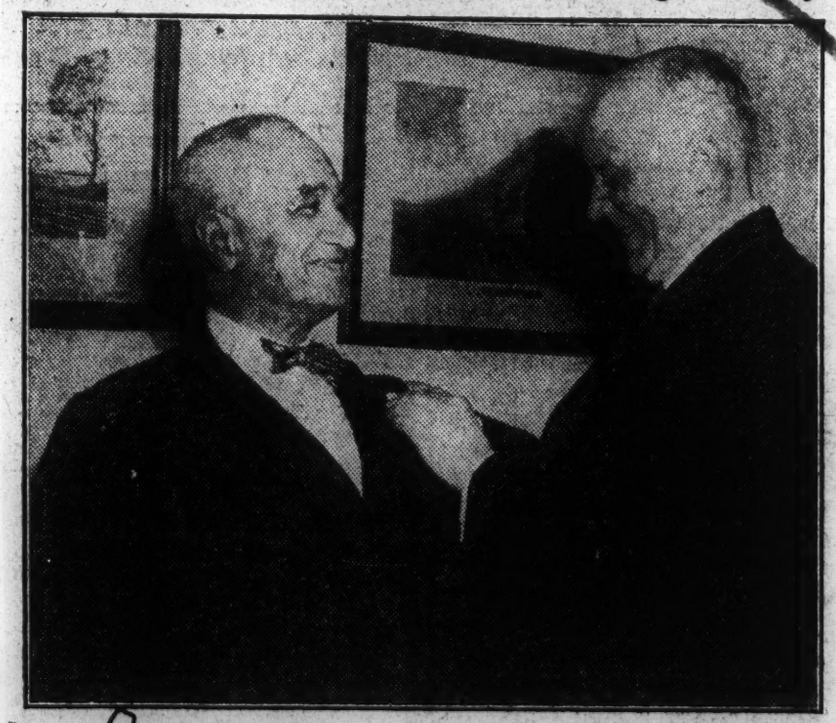
Eight years later, when Mr. Sheppard was transferred to Jersey City, he was taken along and afterwards promoted to office work. In 1912 he was moved to the then recently opened Pennsylvania Station, New York, where he has since remained.

Outside of his railroad work, Mr. Bates' chief interests and activities have been centered in the I. B. P. O. E. of W. In 1906 he was elected Grand Exalted Ruler of the order and from 1911 to 1928 he served as its Grand Secretary, with headquarters in Newark. During those 17 years he was instrumental, by hard work on evenings and holidays and outside the hours of his railroad job, in building up the membership of the Elks from 4,000 to more than 100,000, with an organization expanded to over 800 lodges in different countries of the world.

Although defeated as a candidate for the New Jersey Assembly in 1924, Mr. Bates did not lose interest in public affairs. In 1932 he was appointed by Governor Morgan F. Larson to serve on the New Jersey Migrant Welfare Commission, and at the present time he is president of the Colored Voters' Club of Essex County.

In 1928 he married Miss Florence Mann of Newark, N. J., and their present home is at 225 Amherst street, East Orange, N. J.

50 Years On Job Without Missing A Day!



M. V. Clement, president of the Pennsylvania Railroad, presents a gold 50-year service button to George Ellis Bates, veteran Negro employee in the general manager's office, upon his completion of half a century's employment without missing a single day of work. The ceremony took place in the Board of Director's Room at Pennsylvania Station, New York, on Thursday afternoon, June 13. (Story page 3.)

Why Negroes Think New York Is Best City In World

NEW YORK—New York is still leading in the appointment of Negroes to high paying positions in public utilities, and to posts once held entirely by whites.

The Western Union Telegraph Company appointed its second all-Negro staff at a branch office in Harlem, last Tuesday, when C. H. Carroll, Jr., district superintendent, transferred the white clerks to other offices and hired three Negroes as operator-clerks.

The new clerks, Hermone Smith, Effir Randolph and Charles Cardwell, are not new to the office, however, having been previously employed some three years ago.

When the company, because of business conditions, found it necessary to retrench, the three Negro clerks were laid off as the most recent employees.

According to Carroll, there are now 36 Negroes employed in the Western Union offices in Harlem. The 135th street office, in the heart of Harlem, has four operator-clerks and ten messengers. The 125th street office has three operator-clerks and 15 messengers, and the 116th street office has four messengers.

2nd Western Union Telegraph Office Is Staffed By Negroes

The Western Union Telegraph Company on Tuesday appointed its second all-Negro staff at a branch office in Harlem when C. H. Carroll jr., district superintendent transferred the white clerks to other offices and hired three Negroes as operator-clerks.

The new clerks, Hermone Smith, Effie Randolph and Charles Cardwell, are not new to the office, however, having been previously employed some three years ago. When the company, because of business condtions, found it necessary to retrench, the three Negro clerks were laid off as the most recent employees.

According to Mr. Carroll there are now thirty-six Negroes employed in Western Union offices in Harlem. The 135th street office, the first office to employ Negroes has four operator-clerks and ten messengers. The 125th street office has three operator-clerks and fifteen messengers and the 116th street office has four messengers.

Negro Dock Workers Tell Of Conditions

New York, Pier 48.

Workers Correspondence Dept.:

I think all your readers should know how the Negro longshoremen spend the day. We get up at 6 A. M., drinking some coffee and rush down to the waterfront downtown to shape up for a job. It's a cold day and it is snowing. At 8 A. M. about 1,500 of us stand around in a big horse-shoe out on the street. A 8 A. M., the stevedore comes out and picks a few dozen men who work until 12 o'clock.

I hope that there will be some bad cargo, because that's the only time that they hire Negroes. No luck for me this morning, so I wait until 12 o'clock.

SHAPE UP AGAIN

The snow is melting and the slush gets in our shoes. We go for some coffee and hang around again. We start another shape. at 1 o'clock they pick out a few dozen men. I'm lucky this time. For the first time this week. But the ship leaves at 2 o'clock, so I get 2 hours work. So I come back to the El Mundo for another cup of coffee. Pretty soon I start for home. No money for light, gas or rent—but at least hamburgers for the family tonight.

A Negro Longshoreman.

Elect Jas. A. Jackson Head Of Negro Sales Representatives Here

Members of The Negro Association for Public Relations and Sales, an organization comprised of men and women who represent firms that deal in consumer goods, elected the following officers at their meeting at the Young Men's Christian Association, 180 West 135th street, last Saturday evening: James A. "Billboard" Jackson of Standard Oil Co., president; Cecil (Babe) Cooke of Ruppert's Brewery, executive vice president; Murcot Wiltshire of Lever Brothers, treasurer, and David Sullivan of Brown Vintner, secretary.

The other members include the following: Ellis A. Williams and Hazel Sharper, Silvercup Bread; Arthur Paris, Trommers; A. Balfour Linton, Golden Crust Bread; Perry Ferguson, Lion's Brewery; Ace Parker, Canada Dry; Herman Smith, G. & W. Whisky; Herbert Fisher, A. & J. Bottling; Hudson Seal, Krikordian Brothers; E. Neil Simpson, Calvert's Whiskey; and Wilfred Gay of Bond Bread.

The purpose of this organization is to develop such skills among its members so as to make them specialists in Negro marketing. The organization will also concern itself with bringing to light varied information that will help advertising agencies and manufacturers in the marketing of their products.

Efforts aer being made ti secure the cooperation of the Negro Grocers Association, the Progressive Greek Association, the Associated Grocers of Harlem, the Association of Trade and Commerce and other organizations of a similar ...ture.

The organization will endeavor to develop a consciousness among Negro consumers to buy chiefly those brands that are represented by Negroes.

Gets Sales Post With Pepsi-Cola

HERMAN T. SMITH, former Circulation Manager of the Norfolk Journal and Guide, who has been appointed to a responsible sales position with the great Pepsi-Cola Company of New York.

PEPSI-COLA FIRM NAMES H. T. SMITH TO HIGH SALES POST

New York:—Herman T. Smith well known Negro sales-promotion and former newspaper man, has been appointed Special Sales promotion man for the Pepsi-Cola Company, it was jointly announced today by Walter S. Mack, Jr., company President, and Don G. Mitchell, Vice-President, Sales.

In his new position Mr. Smith has charge of the planning and direction of sales promotion for Pepsi-Cola in the Negro market, making his position one of the most important held by a Negro in private industry today.

Seen by the press in the Pepsi-Cola office in Long Island City, Mr. Smith said that the Pepsi-Cola Company has shown a great deal of respect and confidence in the Negro by his appointment, and added, "The drink is headed for an all time high in the Negro market this year." Mr. Smith further stated that in keeping with his position, he plans many varied and interesting types of promotion for each Negro community throughout the country.

Mr. Smith was born in Norfolk, Va., is 28 years old, and began his sales promotional career as Assistant Circulation Manager of the **Journal & Guide.** Since then he has been Circulation Manager for the **Washington Tribune,** Special Representative for the Blue Coal Company, Field Representative for the **Pittsburgh Courier** and sales promotion man for Gooderham & Worts (G. & W) Whiskey. He attended school at Virginia Union and Temple Universities and the New York University School of Commerce.

Mr. Smith left here Friday for Birmingham, Alabama, where he will direct a series of promotions throughout the South. All mail should be addressed to him at the Pepsi-Cola Company in Long Island City, N. Y.

Good Will Campaign Launched By Retail Stores On 125th Street; More Jobs For Negroes Predicted

Improved relations between shoppers and merchants and a sharp increase in trade in 125th street stores were forecast this week when a cooperative good will campaign, headed by Harlem leaders and the Uptown Chamber of Commerce, was launched by 125 retail stores in West 125th street between Fifth and St. Nicholas avenues.

Under the plan, expected to provide more jobs for Negro clerks and increase confidence of customers in 125th street shops, merchants guaranteed shoppers fair dealing, courteous service, quality merchandise, low prices and a satisfactory settlement of disputes over transactions.

Hailed by leaders throughout Harlem, the plan won universal praise as a certain means of extending the employment opportunities of Negro clerks in their own community. It was also taken as a strong bid by the stores for the patronage of Harlem shoppers.

Crux of the movement was the creation of a 125th Street Shoppers Adjustment Committee, an inter-racial group whose personnel was said to be a guarantee that shoppers would receive a square deal.

Serving on the committee are the Rev. William Lloyd Imes, pastor of the St. James Presbyterian Church and co-chairman with the Rev. A. Clayton Powell, Jr., of the Greater New York Coordinating Committee for Employment; Mrs. Anna L. Moore, president of the Dunbar Housewives' League; J. W. Christian, advertising manager of the Amsterdam News; Colonel Leopold Philipp, president of the Uptown Chamber of Commerce; Charles Diehl, vice-president and treasurer of the Empire City Savings Bank, and John P. Nugent, City Councilman and long-time resident of Harlem.

Code of Fair Play

Stores approved by the committee will display a blue and orange emblem indicating that they have agreed in writing to operate under the committee's code of fair play.

The code provides that cooperating stores will be bound by the committee's decisions in all disputes with customers; that they will maintain a fair and equitable price policy; that they will not display price-tagged merchandise in show windows unless a full stock of the identical merchandise is carried in the store at the advertised prices; that if merchandise below standard quality is offered for sale it will be clearly described and sold as such; that so-called "pullers-in" will not be empoyed to lure window shoppers into the store and that violation of any of the terms of the agreement will result in immediate withdrawal of the committee's stamp of approval.

The movement, it was said, was inspired by the spreading of insidious propaganda to the effect that 125th street stores carry only "seconds" or merchandise of inferior quality.

Investigation by impartial Harlemites was said to show that this charge was without foundation. Stores in 125th street were found to carry just as high-class merchandise and at the same prices as similar establishments in other sections of the city.

The survey also disclosed that all but a few 125th street stores, between Fifth and St. Nicholas avenue, employed Negroes in what is commonly known as white-collar capacities. The few which carried no Negroes on their payrolls either employ no outside help at all or were unable to replace veteran white workers without undue hardship to them. In both cases the stores gave assurances that Negro clerks would be hired as soon as possible.

Headquarters of the 125th Street Shoppers Adjustment Committee, it was announced, will be located in the office of the Uptown Chamber of Commerce, 271 West 125th street. Shoppers dissatisfied with purchases in 125th street stores were urged to bring their complaints to the committee's offices. Efforts will be made at once to arrange an equitable settlement. If this attempt fails, the committee will be called together to hear both sides of the story and then decide what adjustment the store must make. Cooperating merchants have agreed to abide by the committee's decisions.

With Pepsi-Cola Company

HERMAN T. SMITH

Pepsi-Cola Appoints H. T. Smith To Negro Market Sales Post

Herman T. Smith, well-known Negro sales-promotion and former newspaperman, has been appointed special sales promotion man for the Pepsi-Cola Company, it was jointly announced Thursday by Walter S. Mack, Jr., company president, and Don G. Mitchell, vice-president.

In his new position, Mr. Smith has charge of the planning and direction of sales promotion for Pepsi-Cola in the Negro market, making his position one of the most important held by a Negro in private industry today.

Seen by the press in the Pepsi-Cola office in Long Island City, Mr. Smith said that the Pepsi-Cola Company has shown a great deal of respect and confidence in the Negro by his appointment, and added, "The drink is headed for an all-time high in the Negro market this year". Mr. Smith further stated that in keeping with his position, he plans many varied and interesting types of promotion for each Negro community throughout the country.

Mr. Smith was born in Norfolk, Va., is 28 years old, and began his sales promotional career as assistant circulation manager of the Journal & Guide. Since then he has been circulation manager for the Washington Tribune, distributor for The New York Age, special representative for the Blue Coal Company, field representative for the Pittsburgh Courier and sales promotion man for Gooderham & Worts (G. & W.) Whiskey. He attended school at Virginia Union and Temple Universities and the New York University School of Commerce.

Mr. Smith left here Friday for Birmingham, Ala., where he will direct a series of promotions throughout the South.

PEPSI-COLA CO. NAMES SMITH TO SALES POST

Has Charge of Planning Promotions For Race Market In South

NEW YORK, March 22—Herman T. Smith, well known sales-promotion and former newspaper man, has been appointed special sales promotion man for the Pepsi-Cola company, it was jointly announced this week by Walter S. Mack Jr., company president, and Don G. Mitchell, vice president, sales.

In his new position, Mr. Smith has charge of the planning and direction of sales promotion for Pepsi-Cola in the Race market, making his position one of the most important held by a member of the Race in private industry today.

In the Pepsi-Cola office in Long Island City, Mr. Smith said that the Pepsi-Cola company has shown a great deal of respect and confidence in the Race by his appointment.

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Mr. Smith left here Friday for Birmingham, Ala., where he will direct a series of promotions throughout the South. All mail should be addressed to him at the Pepsi-Cola company in Long Island City, N. Y.

Novel Plan Idea of Pepsi Cola Co. Head

Need of Aiding Youth Stressed By First Lady

Two Negroes were among the group of 13 young college graduates named last week in New York City to receive Walter S. Mack, Jr.'s "business interneships" during a luncheon at La Guardia Field at which Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt and Mayor La Guardia were honor guests.

They were Jeanette Maund, of Hampton institute, and Allen L. McKellar of South Carolina A. and M. College.

The awards represent an effort to develop jobs for young college interneships, or apprenticeships, in the form of salaried jobs at $1,300 a year, at the end of which time the winners will get permanent jobs or be assisted in making other connections. The awards were presented by Mr. Mack, president of the Pepsi-Cola Beverage company.

Mrs. Roosevelt, speaking on Monday to 300 business and professional leaders attending the luncheon, spoke of the importance of youth, and urged her audience to give young people a start in life in an age of changing economic and political philosophies.

Emphasizing that the plan calls for the creation of new, hitherto non-existent jobs, to be developed insofar as is reasonably possible in those very departments of a company in which the applicant wishes training for his future life-long business career, Mr. Mack said that he knew of no happier way of commemorating a thirty-five year celebration of the battling of his company's product, the occasion which inspired the Job Awards plan, than by creating new opportunities for the youth of today.

(Herman T. Smith, special sales representative of the Pepsi-Cola Company, for several months has been traveling all over the country stimulating sales of the popular beverage among Negroes, and following up an extensive advertising campaign by Pepsi-Cola in the Journal and Guide and other colored papers.

(Mr. Smith, a native of Norfolk, formerly was employed in the circulation department of the Journal and Guide. He arrived in Norfolk last week and is expected to continue his promotion work for a week or ten days.)

"The Walter Mack Job Awards for American Youth is dedicated on behalf of American business to American Youth and Its Future," said Mr. Mack. "It is our fervent hope that this year's project will be but the beginning of an ever-expanding program in our own organization, and that other industries will be encouraged to emulate our example. Indeed, we shall be delighted to lay before them the full benefit of our experience in this direction in order to develop similar new job plans for youth in other business organizations throughout the country.

"At this time of rocking world values, everything should be done to encourage the young people of our country to realize that the preservation of the institutions of American Democracy still offers to them opportunity, development and success, and the Walter Mack Job Awards plan was conceived with that thought in mind. I know of no happier way to commemorate a thirty-five year celebration of the bottling of Pepsi-Cola than by creating new opportunities for the youth of today."

"What the Job Award Plan seeks to do," continued Mr. Mack, "is to create an opportunity for business training for young people which will give them several definite advantages over the haphazard, discouraging methods which confront them today. I have long felt that American business should do all in its power to assimilate American youth, and if this practice can be made widespread, and enough organizations can afford to adopt this plan, it will tend toward a solution of some of our young people's career problems."

ENTHUSIASTIC RESPONSE

Overwhelming enthusiasm and response from college presidents throughout the country greeted the proposal of the Walter Mack Job Awards for American Youth, said Mr. Mack. The project was described in a letter sent to these college presidents with the request that they designate the 1940 graduate from their own college who fitted in with the requirements. (Coeducational institutions were allowed both a man and a woman entrant.) Three hundred and thirty men and women from two hundred and fifty-four colleges in forty-five states entered applications, and were then required to write essays on "How American Youth Faces Its Future," these essays being an important element in the selection of the final winners. Leading contenders are being brought to New York for personal interviews with the committee on standards and selection, composed of the following: Dr. Edward V. Stanford, president of the Asociation of American Colleges; Miss Fannie Hurst; Dr. George Shuster, Acting President of Hunter College; John T. Madden, Dean of the School of Commerce, Aaccounts and Finance o New York University; Alvin S Johnson, Director of the New School for Social Research; and Dr. Mack.

Colored colleges participating in the Walter Mack Job Awards plan for American youth include the following: Tuskegee Institute, Miner Teachers College, Washington, D. C., Morehouse College, Atlanta, Ga.; Georgia State Industrial College, Kentucky State Industrial College, Morgan College, Baltimore, Md.; Allen University, Columbia, S. C.

Award 2 Negroes Apprenticeships

NEW YORK.—(ANP)—Two Negroes were among the group of 13 young college graduates named Monday to receive Walter S. Mack, Jr., "business interneships" during a luncheon at La Guardia Field at which Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt and Mayor La Guardia were honor guests. They were Jeanette Maund, of Hampton institute, and Allen L. McKellar of South Carolina A. and M. college.

The awards represent an effort to develop jobs for young college graduates by granting business interneships or apprenticeships, in the form of salaried jobs at $1,300 a year, at the end of which time the winners will get permanent jobs or be assisted in making other connections. The awards were presented by Mr. Mack, president of the Pepsi-Cola company.

Mrs. Roosevelt, speaking to 300 business and professional leaders attending the luncheon, spoke of the importance of youth, and urged her audience to give young people a start in life in an age of changing economic and political philosophies.

"We face philosophies of thought that wipe out the individual, that think of the state and the power of the state, and we must prove that democracy can solve the problems of individual freedom. But we can only do it if we work together."

Complimenting Mrs. Roosevelt's talk, Mayor La Guardia said: "There is enough ingenuity in business to absorb these young people finishing college. The comparison of what is going on here and in Europe is sufficient to make us pause and consider what system we like. What we need at this moment is national unity."

Those who receive the fellowships move up at the expiration point to make place for a new class of select youth while the plan revolves from year to year.

The plan is thoroughly democratic and is open to all American college youth, without regard to race. Mr. Mack, who is president of the Pepsi-Cola Company, hopes that other American industries may adopt the plan. It is a fine way for American business men to provide a New Deal for the nation's youth.

Jobs for Youth

THE great problem confronting youth just graduating from college is that of employment. The Pepsi-Cola Company, a business of large proportions, announces a plan, which if adopted by business in general, would provide at least a partial solution to this problem.

Under the Walter Mack Job Awards for American Youth, select college students, 21 years of age and in need of employment after graduation, are awarded a business fellowship in the form of a year's salaried job, paying $1300 for the period. During the year of work and study the young people who are fortunate enough to win the awards may work in any department of the business for which their capacities best fit them, and at the end of the period may find permanent employment or if this is not available, may be assisted in finding employment in some other industry.

1-20-40

Two Negroes Awarded Job Apprenticeships

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Dismissed Employees Reinstated

New York, N. Y., July 12—Report was made today that five Negro employees of the Federal Government were returned to their posts in the Stewards Department of the United States Engineering Department at Memphis, following a ruling in their case by the Chief of Army Engineers. The five employees—Jonnny Webster, Louis H. Aldridge, Robert Sutton, Willie Metcalf and Leslie Artis—were summarily dismissed last February by order of the District Engineer because these workers had made complaint of being forced to work overtime and under onerous conditions of their employment.

Immediately upon their dismissal, these men carried their case to the National Maritime Union of America, of which they were members. The Union appealed to the National Urban League for assistance in bringing pressure upon Federal departments for an investigation of these arbitrary and unfair dismissals. Eugene Knickle Jones, Executive Secretary of the National Urban League, communicated with the Civil Liberties Unit of the Department of Justice and the LaFollette Civil Liberties Committee. At the same time many local affiliates of the National Urban League all over the country used their influence with Congressman and Senators to see that the case of the Negro employees in Memphis be thoroughly and honestly reviewed.

A communication from Wm. R. Henderson, Jr., Memphis Agent of the Inland Boatmens Division of the National Maritime Union, to Mr. Jones, states:

"With reference to our exchange of correspondence concerning the discharge of a number of employees of the U. S. Engineering Department, Memphis District, some months ago, you will be pleased to learn that the Chief of Army Engineers, after making a study of the record of hearing held here recently, has decided that there was no basis for discharging these men, and has therefore ordered their reinstatement.

"The five men, and our entire membership are grateful to you for the substantial effort you put forth in their behalf, and feel that this decision was due in large measure to your efforts.

"Therefore we wish to thank you, and assure you that if at any time we can be of assistance to your organization or its affiliated branches, we shall be glad to render whatever help we can."

Horn & Hardart Employees Relief Ass'n Mails Out Invitations For Moonlight Cruise

We have been told that last week thousands residing in Harlem and hundreds in its neighboring vicinity have received their invitations from the Horn & Hardart Colored Employees' Relief Association for the first Moonlight Cruise which this well-known organization is sponsoring aboard the S. S. "Clermont" on Friday evening, August 16th.

We are certain that those who received these invitations immediately entered a state of jubilancy, because it gave them undisputable proof that they were victorious in their demand that this organization sponsor a moonlight sail. With this victory to their credit we know the friends of this organization are going to see to it that this cruise will be one of the season's merriest.

The organization in doing its part to insure this merriment has secured William Semper and his famous Alabama Stompers to dish out a number of rhythmic tunes that will be well received by music and dance lovers alike. The number of gay evenings this association has provided for its thousands of friends through the sponsoring of many outstanding dances has gained for the organization wide popularity in the community. It is the memory of these affairs that has prompted the thousands of friends of the association to request a moonlight sail and the organization in yielding to this request is certain to add hundreds of friends to its long list.

From the amount of attention that pleasure seekers are giving to this moonlight sail it is evident that you can't go wrong if you decide to be among the throng who will be on board the "Clermont" when it hoists its anchor at 132nd Street Pier and Hudson River at 8:30 o'clock on the evening of Friday, August 16th.

Mrs. Homer Is 1st Assistant

Gets Promotion In Library System

DEC 28 1940

Mrs. Dorothy R. Homer, of 247 West 150th St., is now a first assistant in the New York Public Library system, her appointment having been made on Tuesday, Dec. 17. This promotion is being heralded by Harlemites as an answer to the demand that Negroes be integrated in the library system, as well as in the key positions in branches throughout the city.

Mrs. Homer remains at 135th Street Branch, where she has worked most of the time since she became a library employee here in 1937. She and Mrs. Catherine Lattimore, who has been many years in the Negro Division at 135th Street Branch, are the only Negro women holding the Grade III classification (first assistant) in the New York system. The highest jobs held by Negroes in the system are those of Mrs. Regina F. Andrews, librarian in charge of 115th Street Branch, and Dr. L. D. Riddick, curator of the Negro Division at 135th St., the latter being a part of the reference division of the library set-up.

Miss Laudree Gumbs, a graduate of the Hampton Library school, is now on the staff of the Harlem Branch, 124th St., having been appointed in September. At the Aguilar Branch, 174 East 110th St., Miss Mildred Prout is now a librarian-in-training in the children's department. A Hunter College graduate, she is now studying library science at Columbia "U". Miss Roberta Bosley, for many years on the staff of the 135th Street Branch, was transferred recently to Tremont Branch in the Bronx.

Red Caps Sign Agreement With New York Central

NEW YORK, Feb. 1—Hailed by Union officials and rank and file members as a victory of first magnitude and importance, an unprecedented agreement covering approximately 700 station red caps, porters and train red caps was signed between the New York Central Railroad Company, the Grand Central Terminal Company, the Michigan Railroad Company, the Michigan Central Railroad, the Cleveland Union Terminal Company and the International Brotherhood of Red Caps, last week.

Participating in the negotiations for the Union were President Willard S. Townsend and members of the Union's Board of Adjustment of the New York Central System. Company negotiators, headed by John G. Walber, vice president in charge o personnel, included general managers and division superintendent of the various operating district of the huge railroad system.

Union officials expressed confidence that the new agreemen will lay the ground work for the institution of a number of reforms and a more equitable distribution of work, especially a the spacious Grand Central Station in New York City. This station is credited with instituting the red cap service some 50 years ago, and today employs some 400 red caps.

Drive For Negro Real Estate Agents And Collectors Started

By WILLIAM H. FERRIS

Because very few real estate companies opening in Harlem have hired Negroes as agents or rent collectors, the Universal Negro Improvement Association, Inc., has launched a drive for them.

On Tuesday, Dr. Lionel A. Francis, the president wrote to forty real estate companies stating that the U. N. I. A has a list of college graduates with knowledge of housing, who have worked for over five years as investigators and consultants in the Dept. of Welfare and were released recently because of Civil Service ruling.

He also stated that the men are now seeking employment and requested that a date be arranged for a representative of the organization to call and discuss the employment possibilities of Negro agents.

Two of the forty companies replied, Brown, Wheelock, Harris, Stevens, Inc., of 2146 Seventh avenue, stated that for the past six years their buildings in the Harlem territory have been under the direct supervision of Negro agents and collectors. Moyse & Goldsticker, Inc., of 166 West 125th street, stated that they were not in a position at this time to enlarge their staff.

New York's Transit Lines To Use Negroes

NAACP Told By Mayor There'll Be No Discrimination

NEW YORK—The right of colored workers to employment on the Brooklyn Manhattan Transit system, is assured, when the city takes over the line, together with the Interborough Rapid Transit line in a unification program, the NAACP has just announced.

The announcement was made following the settlement of differences between the New York Board of Transportation, the Mayor, and the Transport Workers Union, the Brotherhood of Railway Signalmen, over assumption of existing union contracts, when unification becomes effective May 15.

Full assurance of the integration of colored workers in the transit systems was given to the NAACP by Mayor LaGuardia.

OPPOSE CLOSED SHOP

At a hearing before the board of transportation, prior to the settlement, the NAACP expressed its determination to fight against the contract agreement with the brotherhood unions, which comprise 1,400 subway employees on the B. M. T., on the ground that the unions have specific clauses in their constitutions barring colored workers.

The association made it plain that it stood for organized labor, that it intended to take no action against the T. W. U., whose leaders have always stood for full integration of colored workers in the union, but did stand out squarely in opposition to the right of the brotherhoods to receive the benefit of a close shop agreement with the city, which would forever close out Negroes from employment.

At the conclusion of the hearing, John H. Delaney, chairman of the board, gave the NAACP full assurance that no discrimination in any category would be tolerated.

This assertion was given added strength when the Mayor phoned the NAACP in response to a telegram, stating that he would permit no discrimination in employment when the city takes over the lines.

Working as usual, New York City Red Caps who face a drastic change in status on or about June 1, when a new pay schedule of 30c per hour will go into effect and reduce wages to $2.40 a day of eight hours, or $14.40 a week. The new move by the large railroads was said to have been the answer to lawsuits totaling more than $5,000,000 instituted by the United Transport Service Employees Union to recover back wages and penalties under the Wage and Hour Law which went into effect October, 1938. Left to right, top row, Red Caps at Grand Central Terminal and Pennsylvania Station, New York, laden with passengers' luggage, and the dashing oldster, Bill Egan, chief trainmaster of Penn Station chatting with the "boys." Left to right, bottom, Red Caps in groups discussing the new wage regulations. At extreme right are: Earl C. Adams, chairman, and E. C. Robinson, secretary-treasurer, United Transport Service Employees of America, local 602.

NEW YORK RED CAPS WILL GO ON SALARY

10-Cents-a-Bag Charge Goes into Effect June 1 at Pennsy and Grand Central Terminals.

NEW YORK, May 9—The 10-cents-a-bag charge agreed upon by railroads to bring the earning of redcap porters within the requirements of the wages-and-hour act, will go into effect in Grand Central and Pennsylvania terminals here on June 1, the New York Central and the Pennsylvania Railroads announced last week.

The Pennsylvania Railroad reported that the new schedule would go into effect on May 15 at terminals in Newark and Trenton, N. J. The new plan has been in effect for some time at the Cincinnati Union Terminal according to the New York Central, and on May 1 went into effect at the 125th street and West 42nd street stations here as well as at a number of stations outside New York.

HARLEM JOBLESS WAIT FOR FOOD: A few of the thousands of Harlem unemployed workers are seen waiting in line for surplus Commodity Corp. food distributed by the federal government at 135th St. and Park Ave. Formerly four surplus food stations served Harlem,

but today the central depot is hidden in a far corner of the city. Line of people taken in photo yesterday morning at 6 o'clock extended around the block. One photo shows line at 135th St., other on Park Ave. at Harlem River.

—Daily Worker Photos

OUR RED CAPS DILEMMA!

NOV 7 1940

(By L. BAYNARD WHITNEY)

New York--(C)—Nearly one hundred redcaps, accused of chiseling and falling down on their $2.40 daily wage quota, at the rate of ten cents per portered bag, have been suspended at New York's Penn Station and Grand Central, two of the world's busiest railroad stations. The wage law gives station porters thirty cents an hour per 8-hour day, but Grand Central, it is said, adds fifty cents for bookkeeping and spotters.

Think of a porter having to hustle for an extra pittance to pay "pigeons." Many of the layoffs have been based solely on spotters' statements without evidence or witnesses, it is reported. Some of the porters, to avoid blacklisting, dig into their pockets to make their quotas.

The railroads, which keep all the times the porters earn above their quota, contend that the porters would in all cases give the passenger change after he has paid ten cents a bag. But the porter works on the assumption that unless the passenger specifically asks for change, it belongs to the porter as a tip. This situation has started a court argument which has not yet been decided.

More Jobs Lost

Unemployment has been increased in many places throughout the country due to the new wage law for redcap porters. Stations with slow passenger traffic have dismissed all porters except those whose incomes justifies retention at the rate of $2.40 per day.

In New York the United Transport Employees Union has been instrumental in having many of the porters restored to duty, the railroads apparently relenting after so much unfavorable publicity.

The situation now presents the best opportunity for the railroads to work out and perfect a more satisfactory system that will protect all concerned, including the public. The system should be mechanized and foolproof and the matter of tips over and above the daily wage should be permanently settled. The new wage system was established specifically to do away with the uncertainty, irregularities and inadequacies of the tipping system.

60% in Spanish Harlem Jobless, Writers Find

To revel in the romantic atmosphere of Central and South America, the Manhattan resident need travel no farther than his own little Latin America, that colorful section of Harlem stretching from 110th to 116th Sts. between Third and Fifth Aves. Here people from all of the twenty-one Spanish-American countries have settled, bringing with them their native customs, their unusual articles of diet, their fast-tempo music, and their Latin zest for living.

Investigation by a reporter for the New York City WPA Writers' Project reveals that more than 300,000 of Manhattan's cosmopolitan population is of Spanish-speaking origin, two-thirds of them concentrated in Harlem where they have their shops, theatres, and cultural centers. As a matter of fact Spanish Harlem is one of the world's largest Spanish cities. Moreover, sixty per cent of the colony's inhabitants are unemployed.

These Latin Americans are instinctively musical. The Puerto Ricans are especially gifted in the art of rhythm, and few of the colony's night spots are without their Puerto Rican rhumba or chestra. Music stores dot Fifth Avenue in Spanish Harlem

The colony is of comparatively recent origin. The first great influx of Spanish Americans into New York did not begin until 1914 but from 1914 to 1919 they came in waves. Most of them had only moderate means and as a result were forced into the regions of cheapest rents, which also meant the area with the greatest slums. Although they could not remodel the ugly tenements, they did manage to change the district to resemble their homeland — naming their shops after their flowery custom such names La Sorpresa or El Encanto (Surprise and Enchantment), and filling the market places with exotic products of the tropics; mangos, garbanzos, Mexican serapes, and South American pottery.

The festival of the year for Latin Americans is October 12, Columbus Day, which they call "El dia de la raza," or the "day of the Spanish race." Then Spanish Harlem becomes an area of promenading crowds.

They are great dreamers, these Spanish Americans, and there is no greater tribute to them than the fact they can still keep their dreams and their love of life amid the bleak poverty of Spanish Harlem.

Who's Crazy?

A fine and magnificent voice, this Parker Watkins, the jobless Negro tenor who sang to thousands in the Pennsylvania station. A representative of the genius of his people.

But the story on the front page of the New York Post yesterday tries to make of him a stunt maker, a talented panhandler. The Post story showers encomiums of praise upon him, trying to appear as a champion of the cultural aspirations of the Negro people. (At the same time it glorifies the anti-Negro picture "Gone with the Wind.")

But the Post leaves out altogether the fact that Watkins' unemployment is an expression of the abominable suffering of the Negro people. It soft-pedals the fact that he was fired off WPA which the Roosevelt administration is busy slashing further. It uses Watkins as the example of a "crazy town full of curious people." Well, Watkins asked for a job, which none of the rich condescending patrons in the station gave him. Tens of thousands of employable Negroes in Harlem want jobs, which capitalism and its hypocritical Posts don't provide. The tragedy is that a talented oppressed people should be so manhandled by a decadent system and its whimsical press.

It's capitalism that's crazy.

Only One N.Y. Daily Employs Race Writers

NEW YORK CITY, Feb. 2—Those white papers which were so horrified recently by the revelation that a member of the Race holds a leading position on the editorial staff of the Daily Worker, published in this city, have another shock coming.

A survey conducted by the Crusader News Agency on employment of Race writers by New York dailies brought out the fact that there are four Race workers on the staff of the Communist paper. The survey revealed, further that not one of the other metropolitan dailies has a Race worker on its editorial staff.

The four Race members on the Daily Worker's staff are Ben Davis Jr., Angelo Herndon, Spencer Rauk, all three in the editorial department, and Melvina Summers, an office worker employed in the accounts receivable department of the business office.

Ted Poston, whose by-line appears occasionally over news stories in the New York Evening Post, merely does space work for that paper, and occasional special assignments in Harlem, the editor of the Post told the CNA in response to a telephone inquiry.

Violator Of Wage Law Is Fined $550

NEW YORK, March 15—Rocco Tricaro, partner in the Raymond Beauty shop system, 117-05 Liberty avenue, Richmond Hill, New York, has the choice of serving a jail sentence of 130 days or paying a fine of $550, unless he pays two of his women employees a total of $249.96 by June 14, 1940.

Judge Peter Hornung of the Magistrates Court, Long Island City, in imposing the sentence recently, asid he hoped this conviction would be a lesson to beauty service employers, that the State Minimum Wage law has to be obeyed.

Under the terms of the Mandatory Minimum Wage order for women and minors in the beauty service industry, $16.50 must be paid for 45 hours or less work. The Division of Women in Industry and Minimum Wage of the State Department of Labor, which discovered the violations, explained that the Raymond Beauty shop had been paying one employee $4 for 50 hours work over a period of months and had been falsiying the records in order to show the full amount required by the order. He was convicted on three counts, for the underpayments, for falsification of records and also for working a girl on her scheduled day of rest.

This case was a second offense and a fine of $50 was imposed. Mr. Tricaro in an earlier trial pleaded not guilty but later admitted his guilt.

HARLEM LABOR UNION GETS 15 NEW JOBS

NEW YORK, Feb. 1 — The campaign of the Harlem Labor Union for jobs outside of the Harlem area, which has resulted in the securing of 15 jobs for workers in the Caray Food Shoppe, 363 East 149th St., will be further expanded this week.

This militant job conscious group will exert every effort to secure jobs for Negro salespeople in Hearns, Alexanders and other department stores in the Bronx, which are across the street from the Caray Food Shoppe, according to Columbus A. Austin, Public Relations Director of the Harlem Labor Union.

With the force in Harlem doing their utmost to destroy business for the 125th street merchants, and with a large percentage of the customers of the growing 149th street shopping area being Colored people, the Harlem Labor Union is determined to bring sufficient pressure to bear on the merchants to the end that 149th street so far as Negro salespeople are concerned will be just as colored as 125th street.

"We realize," that Mr. Francis O. Miner, business manager of the Harlem Labor Union, "that we have a big job to do in Harlem without worrying about going to the Bronx. But since Negro customers have already selected 149th street as one of their shopping centers, we think it no more than right that Hearns, Alexanders, Sears Roebuck of the Bronx in that particular section, should give jobs to Negro people, because certainly the hard earned money of Colored people is an important factor in keeping the doors of these establishments open. With this idea in mind the Bronx Job Campaign is on."

NAACP Urges Mayor LaGuardia To Employ Negroes on Subways

NEW YORK—Mayor LaGuardia was asked this week by the NA.A.C.P. to open the way for the employment of qualified Negroes on the B.M.T. and I.R.T. subway lines after the city takes over these lines under the proposed plan for a unified city-owned rapid transit system.

The letter was sent to the mayor on Tuesday, March 5, at the height of the controversey between La Guardia and officials of the Transport Workers Union over the mayor's labor policy, after unification is completed.

The mayor has already stated that neither the right to strike nor the closed shop will be allowed after the city takes over the lines. to this policy the Transport Workers Union has strenuously objected.

The N.A.A.C.P. letter, which expressed agreement with the mayor's position in the union controversy, asked the mayor to give special attention to the employment of "qualified Negroes who do not have such status, because they have been denied opportunity to work at all, may be given opportunity for employment, as they are on the Independent Subway."

Negroes are at present employed on the Independent subway, which is city-owned, in the capacity of guards, conductors, motormen and station agents.

Urges Subway Jobs For Race In New York

NAACP Asks LaGuardia To Open Way When City Takes Over Lines

NEW YORK.—Mayor LaGuardia has been asked to open the way for the employment of qualified Negroes on the B.M.T. and I.R.T. subway lines after the city takes over these liens under the proposed plan for a unified city-owned rapid transit system.

The plea was made by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in a letter sent to Mayor LaGuardia last Tuesday, at the height of a controversy between the Mayor and officials of the Transport Workers Union.

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City To Take Over BMT and IRT System

Transport Workers Union Opposes Closed Shop

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The letter was sent to the mayor on March 5, at the height of the controversy between LaGuardia and officials of the Transport Workers Union over the mayor's labor policy, after unification is completed.

The mayor has already stated that neither the right to strike nor the closed shop will be allowed after the city takes over the lines. To this policy the transport workers union has strenuously objected.

The NAACP letter, which expressed agreement with the mayor's position in the union controversy, asked the mayor to give special attention to the employment of "qualified Negroes who do not have such status, because they have been denied opportunity to work at all, may be given opportunity for employment, as they are on the Independent Subway."

Negroes are at present employed on the Independent subway, which is city-owned, in the capacity of guards, conductors, motormen and station agents.

Store Celebrates 54th Birthday As Blumstein's Presented Cakes

Receiving birthday cakes with which customers and employees shared in the 54th birthday celebration at Blumstein's 125th street store Saturday, are two of the store's employees. Standing from left to right are Ryder Blumstein, secretary and treasurer; Mrs. Lillie M. Jackson and Mrs. Bernice Robinson, saleslady for the past three years. Mrs. Robinson, saleslady in the negligee department, has been employed for the past five years. (Story on page three) M. M. Smith photo

NAACP Urges Mayor LaGuardia To Employ Negroes on Subways

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Urges Subway Jobs For Race In New York

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LABOR- 1940
OCCUPATION, WAGES, ETC.

NORTH CAROLINA

Window Cleaner

IN THE UNUSUAL business of professional window-washer is

Henry H. Mallette of Wilmington N. C. Mr. Mallette does the majority of the window cleaning in the Wilmington business district and has three regular employees.

Durham, N. C., Morning Herald
February 7, 1940

1,000 Negroes Ask For Compensation

End Of Work On New Tobacco Crop Leaves Hundreds Here Without Employment

Approximately 1,000 Negroes have applied for unemployment compensation since the 1939-40 tobacco crop has been handled, leaving them without work. It is expected that 500 more will have filed by the time all certificates have been received.

Police assistance has been needed to keep the throngs in line on South Roxboro street, where Mrs. Ethel Lipscomb is in charge of the employment office. Mrs. Lipscomb was complimentary of the speed with which the workers have handled the applications.

This is an annual demand on the employment office and is not considered at all alarming by Mrs. Lipscomb, who has handled the situation on several occasions.

Each applicant is required to file a claim when his job ceases. Redrying plants and other facilities for handling the new tobacco crops have closed, and other plants will cease to operate soon.

Mrs. Lipscomb said there was some confusion in the minds of the applicants, who thought their social security would become operative in case of their unemployment. They did not understand that they would be benefited only on attaining the age of 65.

N. C. COURT UPHOLDS WAGES, HOURS LAW

FAYETTEVILLE, N. C., Feb. 28 —(ANP)—Back salaries of $1,079 was ordered paid to five Negro section hands by the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad here last week when federal judge, Isaac M. Meekins upheld the wages and hour law as "a valid regulation of interstate commerce" and demanded reimbursement of employees who have been receiving less than the minimum wage of 25 cents per hour.

WHAT THE GOVERNOR OF NORTH CAROLINA said to the Governor of South Carolina is well known to "Uncle David" Haywood, aged negro, who has served the former state's governors as a sort of "major domo" for the past 47 years. "Uncle David," shown here with Governor Clyde Hoey, refuses to disclose which of his 12 bosses partook of his mint juleps, but he avers he certainly knows how to make them.

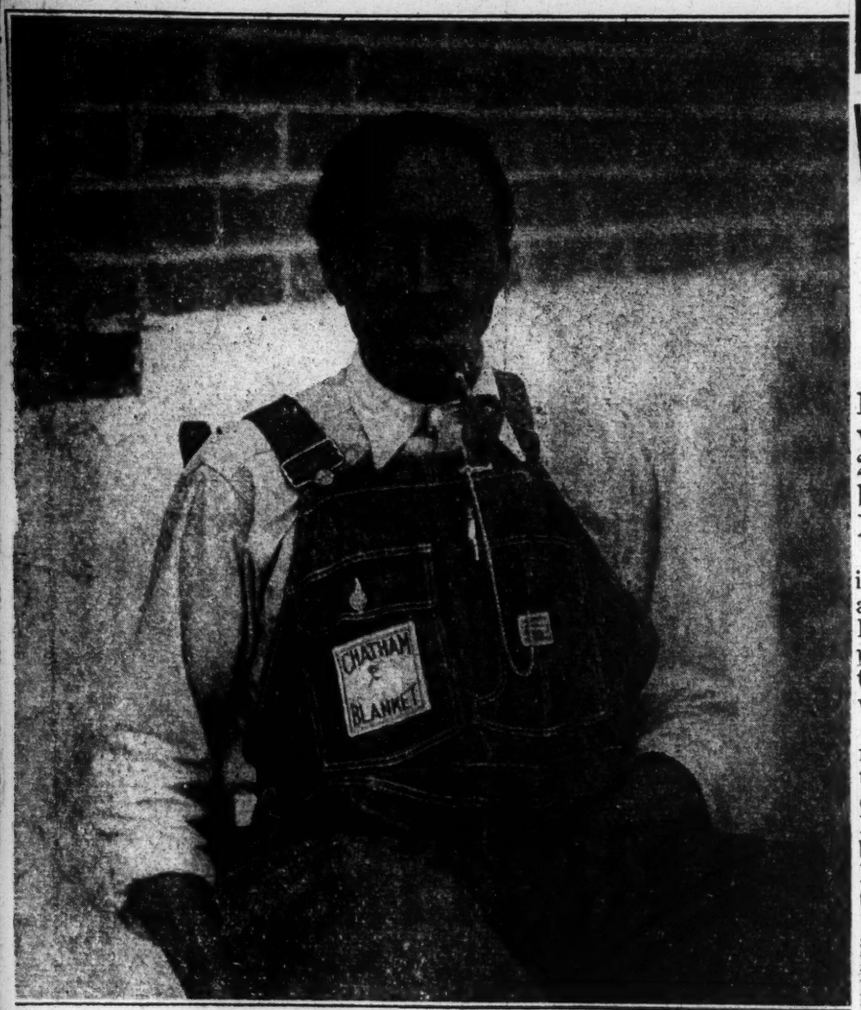
Honored On Retirement

Charlotte, N. C., News
March 31, 1940

Bessie Wilson checked her time card at the Post Office at 11 o'clock yesterday morning—and she was through "for good." Bessie, who has been a charwoman at the Post Office for 22 years, is the first woman—white or Negro—to be retired by the local office. Her fellow employees gave her a wrist watch as a remembrance, and sent her on her way with a round of applause. W. B. Bradford, assistant postmaster, is shown presenting the watch to Bessie on behalf of the employees. (News staff photo)

Elkin, N. C. Tribune
February 8, 1940

With Chatham Company for 43 Years



Uncle Jesse Barker, one of the oldest employees of the Chatham Manufacturing company. The aged colored man, now 85, has seen the mill grow from a small plant into the great industry it has now become. He is still a loyal employee.

AGED NEGRO IS STILL WITH CO.

Uncle Jesse Barker, Now 85, Has Record of Three Generations

REMEMBERS CIVIL WAR

Eleven years old at the end of the Civil War, Uncle Jesse Barker, colored, now 85, has a record of three generations of service with the Chathams, first as an employee of the family and now with the Chatham Manufacturing company.

The old man went to work for the company 43 years ago, before which he had worked for Alex Chatham, Sr., staring in the boiler room. There he remained until advancing age demanded less strenuous work and he was given a broom and scrub brush and asked to help keep the mill clean.

Uncle Jesse remembers well the Civil War. He will tell of the time his mother hid him and his brothers when the "Yankees" came down the Yadkin river valley to Elkin. During his lifetime he has seen the steady growth of the Chatham company since President Thurmond Chatham's grandfather, Alexander, opened the Elkin mill in 1877. Today he still proudly works for the company.

RAILROAD LOSES IN NORTH CAROLINA WAGE-HOUR CASE

Must Pay Over $1,000 To Workers; Stands To Lose Million More

FAYETTEVILLE, N.C.—Five colored section hands will be paid a total of $1,079.-20, as the result of a ruling by U.S. District Judge Isaac M. Meekins on Monday.

Judge Meekins upheld the validity of the fair labor standards act and ordered the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad to reimburse employes for its failure to pay them the 25 cents-an-hour minimum wage prescribed by the act.

The decision is far-reaching. The road will have to pay out more than $1,000,000 should its 6,000 employes in Virginia, the Carolinas, Georgia, Florida and Alabama receive similar judgments, D. Lacy McBryde, wage-hour attorney, said.

The court ruled that the railroad illegally charged its section hands rent for houses that did not exist, for water pumps that did not pump, for sanitary facilities where none existed and for unprovided "special police protection against white hoodlums."

Mere Tricks

Judge Meekins found these deductions from the pay of employes to be nothing more than "devices" to avoid payment of minimum wages provided for in the act, and that the railroad, in violation of both Federal and state laws, had deducted from the employes' wages amounts for railroad retirement and social security taxes far in excess of the legal maximums.

The court, in upholding the wage-hour act, said it "is a valid regulation of interstate commerce" and that it is not in violation of the due process clause of the Fifth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, as charged.

Raleigh, N. C., News & Observer
January 27, 1940

GROUP TO STUDY NEGRO JOB PLANS

Shuford Heads Commission Studying Employment Problems for Negroes

Preliminary studies, centered for the time being on the problem of domestic servants, building and custodial jobs, were decided upon yesterday by the commission appointed by Governor Hoey to study the problem of employment of Negroes.

Yesterday's meeting was the commission's first and it elected State Labor Commissioner Forrest H. Shuford chairman and Dr. Roy M. Brown of the University of North Carolina secretary.

Commissioner Shuford will appoint subcommittees to conduct the first two surveys, those into the question of jobs as domestic servants or in building and custodial work. He said the committee will seek to find ways of "training people to be better fitted to hold jobs, which will increase employment possibilities."

The commission agreed that professional and other callings would receive subsequent attention. Before taking any action at the meeting in the Governor's office, the commission discussed all fields for employment of Negroes in this State.

Lt. Lawrence A. Oxley, former head of the Negro division of the North Carolina Department of Welfare and now supervisor of the Negro placement service of the Social Security Board in Washington, participated in the discussions. He outlined limited objectives in a program to stimulate more adequate training and job opportunities for Negroes.

Commission members are: The Rt. Rev. Edwin A. Penick, Raleigh, bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of North Carolina; Commissioner Shuford; R. Mayne Albright, Raleigh, director of the State Employment Service; Irma Neal Henry, Raleigh, executive secretary of the N. C. Committee on Negro Affairs; C. C. Spaulding, Durham, president, N. C. Mutual Life Insurance Co.; Dr. E. E. Toney, Oxford physician; Jonathan Daniels, editor of The News and Observer; Gordon Gray, publisher of the Winston-Salem Journal and Sentinel; Dr. Brown; and Dr. David Jones, president, Bennett College, Greensboro.

Charlotte, N. C. Observer
April 10, 1940

SPEAKER CITES NEGRO HERDING

Says Immorality and Illegitimacy Run Riot During Berry Picking Season.

KINSTON, April . —(AP)— "Immorality and illegitimacy run riot" during the strawberry picking season because men and women workers are herded then into barns and shacks, William R. Johnson, negro representative of the State Welfare department, said today.

Johnson spoke at the 21st annual State conference of the North Carolina Commission on Interracial Cooperation.

During the short picking season, Johnson continued, the laborers migrate and are housed under conditions that contribute to close intermingling of the sexes. Until now, there has been very little supervision, he said. But, Johnson informed his audience of more than 150 persons, steps are being taken to prevent "herding" this season.

Jonathan Daniels, Raleigh editor and author, told of his experiences in collecting materials for his books and said that nowhere did he find people housed worse than in some places in Eastern North Carolina.

H. T. F. Nanton, negro representative on the State Housing authority, said than in every North Carolina city there were slums marked by dilapidation, crowding and lack of sanitary facilities.

Other speakers discussed housing, health and negro educational facilities.

Concord, N. C. Tribune
June 30, 1040

Concord's Colored C. C. C. Camp Proves Great Help To Farmers

Reclamation of Land And Prevention of Soil Erosion Important.

The colored Civilian Conservation Corps, located in Concord, began work in the county last October, and since that time has made remarkable progress in its conservation and reclamation work on farms throughout Cabarrus and parts of Rowan county, a report issued by officials of the camp indicates.

Cooperation by the farmers is purely voluntary, and the program of conservation has the economic advantage of being long range and gradual.

For each farmer who cooperates by asking for help and advice from the camp, a map for his whole farm is drawn and from this is made a five-year conservation plan for the farm.

It is required of the farmer that he sign a contract in which the exact work to be done by him and by the conservation unit is set forth.

The CCC workers are limited to certain types of work, such as tree planting, sodding gullies, bank sloping, construction of outlets for terraces, and the like, while other work is done by the individual farmer.

This plan in effect consists of expert advice to the farmer, and the work on the part of the farmer is entirely voluntary.

There is no charge for the work done by the CCC campers.

Since its establishment last October the negro conservation unit here contracted with 85 farmers in Cabarrus county to do conservation work. For all these farms long range plans for gradual reclaiming and improvement of the land have been worked out.

According to figures released today, the local camp has set out 334,000 trees and shrubs and 123,000 kudzu plants. The major portion of this planting was done on eroded or semi-eroded land.

In addition to this, land has been put on the road of reclamation through the building and improvement of terraces, the sodding of gullies, ditch channeling, construction of temporary check dams, and through other means.

Following is a report compiled by the camp authorities:

8753 rods of fence construction; 2600 square yards bank sloping in treatment of gullies; 5994 temporary check dams in treatment of gullies; 5077 square yards seeding and sodding in treatment of gullies; 56230 square yards tree planting in gulies; 555 lin. ft. ditches diversion in treatment of gullies; 28460 lin. ft channel construction for terraces; 43 outlet structures for terraces; 5426 square yards planting for terraces; 200 acres sheet erosion planting; 279 acres field planting trees; 25 acres forest stand improvement; 16 man days fighting forest fires; 276 man days staking fields for terraces; 334,800 trees and shrubs planted and 123,300 kudzu planted.

Gets State Job

MRS. CORINNE FERGUSON ADAMS has recently been appointed Interviewer for the North Carolina State Employment Service, Charlotte, which position will give her an opportunity to use many of the techniques and skills learned during the past year at Atlanta University School of Social Work of which she was a student, according to Forrester B. Washington, director of the school. She is a graduate of Tuskegee Institute and is the wife of Harold S. Adams, assistant dean of Johnson C. Smith University. Mrs. Adams has enjoyed several years of experience in various types of positions, among which are— commercial teacher, Shorter College; reporter for the Norfolk Journal and Guide; and stenographer-clerk with the Housing Project, Montgomery, Ala.

Goodwill Campaign For Jobs Business Opens In Harlem

NEW YORK — (ANP)— Harlem leaders, together with the all-white Uptown Chambers of Commerce have entered a new agreement whereby white merchants will profit by more trade from colored and Negroes will profit by more white collar jobs.

Under the plan adopted, confidence in the 125th Street shops will be materially increased, say signers of the new agreement. Under its terms merchants guarantee shoppers fair play, courteous service and quality merchandise. Disputes will be settled "satisfactoryly by a committee composed of several Negroes and white merchants.

Most of the codes incorporated in this new agreement are already provided for the protection of the shoppers by strict laws of the city of New York.

Included are such clauses as "that if merchandise below standard quality is offered for sale it will be clearly described and sold as such," that each store displaying the mark of approval of the Shoppers Adjustment Committee, "must not display in show windows, merchandise price-tagged unless the merchandise is carried in the store at advertised prices," and "no pullers-in" to be employed.

The movement for a Shoppers Adjustment committee was inspired, it is said, by propaganda to the effect that Harlem stores, particularly those on 125th Street carry only second-grade merchandise. An investigation by some unnamed "impartial Harlem committee," is said to have reported that prices on 125th Street for advertised goods are the same as those in other sections of the city.

Questioning of a few Harlem shoppers, however, revealed that in many instances, prices for certain merchandise, widely advertised are as much as 50 cent more than in the downtown section.

TOBACCO WORKERS COMBAT LAYOFF

Men Who Won Model Contract in Big Strike, Now Gird Man Strength to Fight Labor-Saving Machinery.

By TED POSTON
(Staff Correspondent)

DURHAM, N. C., April 18—Having won one of the best union contracts in the country through bitter strikes at the American and Ligget and Myers Tobacco companies, two years ago, the organized tobacco workers of this city this week were massing their strength to the seniority clauses inserted in their contracts.

These contracts, won in the 1938 strike, also provide for higher wages and shorter hours, two weeks vacations annually, eight regular holidays a year, no discrimination, grievance committees. Reductions in staff can be made only in order of seniority and re-employment is made on the same basis, as are all promotions.

The same conditions are included in the contract of Local 20[illegible] the American Tobacco Com[illegible] Inc. This local includes both [illegible] stemmers and manufact[illegible] workers in the plant. The l[illegible] off have not greatly affected the work[illegible] ers there, since the new stem[illegible] machinery has not been inst[illegible] there on a wide scale.

Roy G. Trice Sr., is presid[illegible] Local 208, and John Newso[illegible] president of Local 204.

The white workers in the [illegible] try, who co-operate with the [illegible] Locals in the fight for imp[illegible] conditions, are organized int[illegible] Locals 176, 177, 202 and 210.

Organized in Locals 194, 204 and 208 of the Tobacco Workers International Union, A. F. of L., the more than 2,000 members of the stemmers and manufacturing units of the union have been meeting thrice weekly with leaders of the white tobacco locals to map out strategy to meet the new challenge to their jobs.

Local 194, the oldest and strongest unit which is composed of the stemmers at the Ligget and Myers plant, has been the hardest hit by the layoffs which have brought the number of Negro tobacco workers from approximately 5,000 a few years ago down to about 3,000 at present. Headed by I. L. Johnson, himself a stemmer, the local was organized on May 1, 1934.

As late as February of this year, Local 194 had 1,339 members out of the 1,700 Negro workers in Ligget and Myers. Another 300 or more were included in Local 208, which covers the Negroes in the manufacturing work of the same factory. The layoffs, which have been ranging from 50 to 150 a week have struck some blows at union membership but the organized workers have benefitted greatly by

Brakeman 37 Years, Retires

Call 2-9-40

Sixty - five - year - old WILLIAM (BILL) M. STEWART, genial Grand Forks, N. D., passenger brakeman, made his final trip in the train service of the Great Northern Railway on December 31. Swinging down the steps of a coach on passenger train No. 29, Stewart ended approximately 37 years in a brakeman's uniform. He has been pensioned by the railroad, effective December 31. It was on February 9, 1903, according to the records, that Stewart began his railroad career. His service has been mainly on trains operating out of Grand Forks. Through the years Mr. Stewart has become acquainted with hundreds, and possibly thousands of travelers. He has a wife, two daughters, Mrs. Ben Brown of St. Paul and Mrs. Frances Peebles of Minneapolis, and three grandchildren, Estelynne, Francya and Leon Wagner, all of whom live in St. Paul. Mr. Stewart is a native of Elgin, Ill.

Norman Ministers Discuss Abolition of Negro Ban At World Day Prayer Services

Baptist Divine Said Exclusion Is Method By Which To Secure More Jobs Secure For Students

Golden Rule Suggested For Test

NORMAN, OKLAHOMA.—On the birthday anniversary Monday of the man who liberated Negroes from slavery, Norman's ministers voiced the belief that the city's ban on blacks is losing much of its popular support and should lost more Negroes have never been permitted to own property or secure employment in the city.

Discussion of the long-accepted custom of discouraging Negro residents in Norman began with the announcement Sunday of a resolution passed Friday at World Day of Prayer services which were attended by 68 persons. The resolution, introduced by Mrs. Nick Comfort, wife of the dean of the school of religion, opposed the anti-Negro tradition on the grounds it is anti-Christian and undemocratic.

The resolution called for other Norman citizens, "who see the necessity for maintaining democratic institutions," to support the pronouncement.

In the same auditorium where the resolution was passed at the Presbyterian church, a congregation Sunday heard a plea for the application of the Golden rule to Norman's racial problem.

John B. Thompson, pastor of the church, asked that hearers merely imagine themselves Negroes sometime. "I challenge anyone of you to go to Oklahoma City some day and imagine your face is black," he said.

"I simply suggest that all of us submit our attitudes and practices in this important area of experience to the Christian conscience and see what changes it will work for a few years—if we consistently act on the principle of doing unto others as we would have others treat us."

Three other Norman clergymen interviewed on the subject of local racial problems Monday expressed belief that the custom has little merit and several demerits.

"We should soon reach the conclusion that Negroes have the same right to live in Norman that other American citizens have," Dr. A. Norman Evans, pastor of the McFarlin Memorial church, said. "The custom has kept some prominent families from moving here, too."

"I never could understand why it should occur," said Father Joseph E. Hallisey of the Mater Admirabills chapel, "and then have people glory in the fact. It is un-American. Our judgments are based upon prejudices, for we have lost our sense of values."

"I could not support the exclusion of Negroes on any ground other than that it makes it possible for more students to get housework," said E. F. Hallock, pastor of the First Baptist church.

Charge WPA Men Used To Pull Plow

This photograph allegedly showing WPA workers "hitched to a plow" on a garden project near Collinsville, Okla., led to an investigation by the district WPA supervisor who later admitted the complaint was based on fact and promised the practice would be discontinued.

Ohio Leads In Negro Youths' Placements

Daily World 6/27/40 Atlanta, Ga.

COLUMBUS, Ohio—(A N P)—Ohio led the states of New York, Pennsylvania, Illinois, Michigan, and Indiana, in placing Negro youth under 21 years of age in private employment during the last six months of 1939. Ohio Bureau of Unemployment Compensation officials have informed Gov. John W. Bricker.

The comparisons which found Ohio in top position were based on private placements of Negro boys as a percentage of all private placements of boys, and in private placements of Negro girls as a percentage of all private placements of girls under 21 years of age, bureau officials announced.

Ohio's showing in this respect was credited largely to the efforts of the Negro placement unit, employment service division of the Ohio Bureau of Unemployment Compensation, under the direction of Chester J. Gray.

Ohio ranked fourth among the states listed, in its proportion of all placements of youth under 21 years of age to total placements, the report to Gov. Bricker stated.

A total of 4,065 more Negro workers of all ages were placed in employment in 1939 than in 1938 by 1938 by the Ohio BUC's employment service division, bureau officials also announced.

Bureau officials report steady increases have been noted each month in placements of Negro workers through BUC Employment Security centers since the first of this year.

ICC Conducts Hearing on Red Cap Fees

Mrs. Roosevelt Chiseled on Payment, Porter Testifies

SEP 12 1940

CINCINNATI, O., Sept. 11 (UP).—An Interstate Commerce Commission hearing on the legality of a 10-cent-an-article charge by Union Terminal porters continued today after "Red Caps" had testified that Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt and Circuit Judge Florence E. Allen had underpaid them.

Clinton McDuffy, porter, told Claude E. Rice, ICC examiner, that Mrs. Roosevelt had paid him 50 cents for handling seven pieces of luggage on her visit to Cincinnati last March.

McDuffy said the Terminal Co. overlooked the deficiency when he reported that Mrs. Roosevelt had not paid him the regulation amount.

Dan Jasper, another porter, testified that Judge Allen paid 25 cents on a 40-cent service. He said she refused to pay the difference when he asked her for it.

The hearing is being held to determine whether the piece method of paying for luggage handling is contrary to Interstate Commerce laws.

COMMISSION TO HOLD MEETING AT CINCINNATI

Public Airing is Result of Ohio Woman's Complaint

CINCINNATI. — Seeking to test the legality of the recent introduction of the ten cents fee placed upon passengers for the handling of luggage by red caps, the Interstate Commerce Commission has set September 9 as the date for a public hearing on the question.

The hearing will be held here.

The proposed hearing is the result of a formal complaint filed before the commission by Mrs. Ida M. Stopher of Cincinnati against the Cincinnati Union Terminal Company. The complaint was filed through M. J. Meyers, Chicago attorney.

Mrs. Stopher protested the payment to the company of a ten cents fee for the handling of luggage which she had turned over to a red cap employee of the terminal.

Cites Alleged Violations

In her complaint lodged before the commission, she asked that the company be ordered to answer charges of violations of various sections of the Interstate Commerce Act.

She stated in her complaint that she "had been subjected to the payment of rates, fares or charges which were exacted and still are (1) unjustly and unreasonable in violation of Section 1 of the Interstate Commerce Act; (2) unjustly discriminatory in violation of Section 2; (3) unduly preferential or prejudicial in violation of Section 3; (3) illegal for failure to publish a tariff, in violation of Section 1; (5) illegal as surcharge or extortion for which the defendant was already paid at the time of the purchase of the ticket."

The introduction of the 10-cent charge resulted from a long controversy between the Association of American Railroads and the United Transport Service Employees of America before the Wage and Hour Administration over the use of tips to meet minimum wage to pay red caps, the railroads sought the use of this method to meet the new wage requirement.

A growing number of interested organizations and public spirited individuals have indicated a desire to present testimony before the commission dealing with the unfairness of the charge to the passenger as well as its adverse affects upon the earnings of the red cap.

Negro Employes In Ohio Division Of Aid For Aged

SEP 17 1940

TOLEDO, Ohio—(SNS)—More Negroes are employed by the State Division of Aid for the Aged in positions affording good salaries and responsibility than ever before in the history of the Division, T.W. McCaw, Chief of the Division of Aid for the Aged, announced today.

Daily World Atlanta Ga

Mr. McCaw said that there are now 19 Negroes employed by the Division at an average salary of $1500 a year.

This figure is far higher than the number of Negroes employed by any other administration according to all available records. Recognizing the capabilities and hard work of the Negro employees in his division, Mr. McCaw said:

"I find that the Negro employees are among the hardest working and most capable members of my staff. Recognizing this fact, I have attempted to appoint colored persons as Investigators wherever a sufficiently large Negro case load warrants such action."

Daily World

This announcement by the Chief of the Division of Aid for the Aged comes closely upon the heels of the statement by Governor Bricker before the recent Negro Shrine convention in Columbus that more Negroes are now employed throughout every branch of State Government than were employed under any previous State administration. Thirteen of these 19, or more than 68 per cent, have been appointed to positions during Governor Bricker's administration.

Atlanta, Ga

Governor Bricker, in speaking before the recent gathering, said "Whenever a person demonstrates he or she is competent for a task I believe in giving that person a chance to display his ability."

When speaking of the workers in his department recently, Mr. McCaw said the investigators among the Negroes "really give consideration and thought to every case under their supervision. There is no slipshod method in their treatment of cases and each one seems to have an uncanny knack in understanding the complexities of the department."

NEW POSITION
OCT 19 1940

New York Amsterdam News

Jesse Owens, flashing speed sensation of the 1936 Olympics in Berlin, whose affiliation with the Victory Mutual Life Insurance Company's Columbus, Ohio, as a pressrelations man was announced this week. Owens, whose athletic prowess won him fame and friends all over the world, has entered upon his new duties with the same zest with which he rocketed through the sports world to the highest honors.

Tipping Of Red Caps Banned In Cincinnati

CINCINNATI, O., Feb. 1.—Tipping of Red Caps was eliminated by action of the Cincinnati Union Terminal company here Monday.

Beginning today (Thursday) railroad patrons will be charged a fixed fee of ten cents for each piece of luggage or parcels carried by the terminal's Red Caps.

The company will pay the 94 Red Caps a regular wage of 30 cents an hour. They will be given red checks or receipts which will be tabbed to each piece of baggage they carry. When they sign out, they will return unused checks and pay for those used.

The action of the company has been interpreted in some quarters to mean that the Red Caps have at least won a partial victory in their fight for back wages, alleged to aggregate close to $3,000,000.

Recently the Fair Labor Standards Act Division filed suit against the Terminal for compliance with its interpretation that tips are not part of wages.

Public Must Pay Red Caps In Cincinnati Wage Move

Plan Protest To Interstate Commission

CINCINNATI—(A N P)—An old institution—the red cap porter service at Cincinnati's union terminal—will be revolutionized Thursday when a system of formal payment for each piece of luggage handled is instituted, W. B. Kellogg, manager of the Cincinnati Union Terminal company, announced last week.

Heretofore the traveler's payment has been only by tips. Beginning this week passengers will be forced to pay the red cap 10 cents for each piece of baggage, hand luggage or parcel handled.

In receipt, the red cap is to place on each such carrying piece a red tag denoting that the charge has been paid.

Cincinnati is the first city in the country in which such a system is being tried out. The red cap coming to work will receive a certain number of red checks. Signing out at night, he will return what checks he has left, plus sufficient money to account for the checks he has affixed to baggage at 10 cents a check.

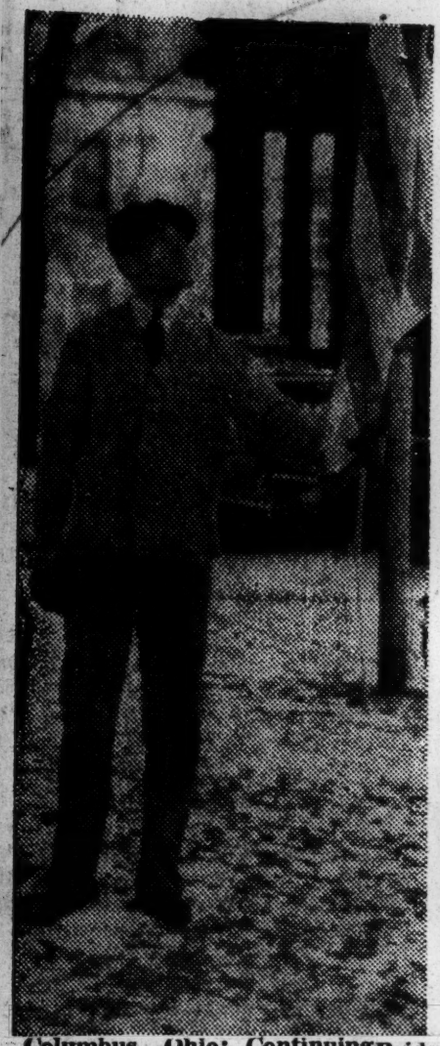
The terminal employs 94 red caps, each of whom work six days a week, an average of 81 being on duty each day.

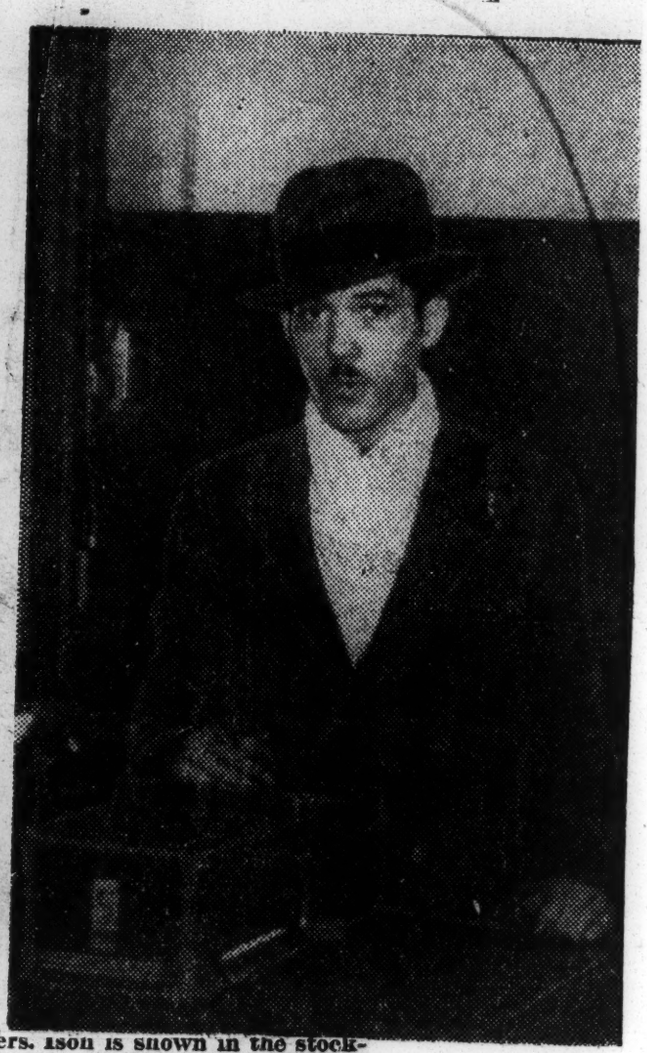
"This change has been brought about by controversies and litigation between the wage and hour division of the department of labor and the Cincinnati Terminal and other large terminals," said Mr. Kellogg.

The wage and hour division and representatives of the red caps have entered into litigation contending that tips cannot be included legally in computation of minimum wage.

The Brotherhood of Railway Clerks and the International Brotherhood of Red Caps unions bitterly oppose the public's being made the goat in the paying of the red caps wages, and urge the public to protest to the Interstate Commerce Commission in Washington the extra charge.

How The State Of Ohio Has Worked Negroes Into Highway Dept.





Columbus, Ohio: Continuing to lead the way in giving Negroes jobs, the Department of Highways of Ohio, Col. Robt. S. Beghler, Director, in carrying out the policies of Governor John. W. Bricker, have employed three men to new jobs.

Left. to right: Harrison Bridges, Lloyd Squaer, Eugene Ison

Harrison Bridges, 54, of Columbus, one of the caretakers at the Ohio State Highway Patrol headquarters in Columbus. Bridges is shown lowering Old Glory from the staff in front of headquarters on East Broad street, it being one of his duties to raise and lower the flag each day. His home address is 1417 E. Long St., Columbus.

Lloyd Squaer, 22, of 6106 Woodland ave., Cleveland, pictured above, is in charge of all the photostat work, the mimeograph printing, and the turning out of the Patrol Bulletin. He is shown here at the photostat machine in his office at the Highway Patrol headquarters in Columbus.

Eugene Ison, 27, of Columbus, assistant stockkeeper for the Ohio State Highway Patrol, at Columbus headquarters. Ison is shown in the stockroom making out a requisition for supplies. Everything the patrol uses, from boots and rain coats, to radio equipment and parts for cars, goes through the stockroom where Ison is employed. Ison lives at 77 S. Ohio ave., Columbus.

RACE BAKERS AND SALESMEN WILL BE HIRED

Future Outlook League Sponsors Move For Employment

CLEVELAND, Jan. 26—The Future Outlook League, which has worked towards solving the economic problem among our group in Cleveland, won another victory it was announced this week.

The Kritzer Baking company has entered into an agreement with the Future Outlook League to employ Race bakers and salesmen in the delivery service. Negotiations which have been in the making for three weeks were settled Tuesday when Eddie Kritzer met with M. Milton Lewis, chairman of the Future Outlook investigation committee; C. P. Gilliam, also a member of the investigating committee; Robert Warren, president of the FOL Employment Union; J. C. Wright, secretary of the investigating committee; Tom Kelly, intermediary between the league and Mr. Kritzer, and Ken Jessay, one of the editors of the Cleveland Call-Post.

Th terms provide that the company will hire three men as driver-salesmen with wages satisfactory to both employe and employer as well as the league. League officials will meet the Kritzer officials twice weekly for the purpose of checking up on the success or failure of the new adventure. Kritzer announced that if the plan is successful for six months, a corporation will be formed in which employes of the company will share in the profits.

The signing of the contract between the company and the FOL is significant for the following reasons: 1. It will serve to open a new line of endeavor to members of our group. 2. For some months, the FOL has attempted without success, to get Race employes hired as driver-salesmen and in other capacities, by numerous baking companies in Cleveland.

These companies have ignored the efforts of the FOL on the grounds that union regulations forbid the hiring of Race workers. A report published by the Urban League of New York revealed that among the unions hostile to Race labor was the International Bakery and Confectionary Workers Union.

SAY ALL YOUTH FACED BY SAME DIFFICULTIES

Vocational Opportunities Are Urged For Idle Race Members

COLUMBUS, Ohio, Feb. 16—Remedies for the employment situation in Ohio are to be reported to Governor Bricker following an all day conference held in the state office building last week.

The conference, made up of more than 200 business men, labor, civic and educational leaders, heard various points of discussion on the problem faced by members of the Race in seeking employment.

Dr. D. O. Walker, Wilberforce president, said, "one thing the Negro must learn and that is to have the ability to sit down around a table and discuss his problems dispassionately. We can demand that our public schools be open to our people, but we cannot demand that the manufacturer open his factory. That can only be accomplished by reason."

"Problem the Same"

"The problem of the young Negro graduating from universities," said Dr. Howard L. Bevis, president of Ohio State, "is not different from that of the young white graduate. Both are confronted with the problem of getting a job or getting established."

J. Harvey Kerns, Secretary, Division of Negro Welfare, Cincinnati Community Chest, discussing the problem of white-collar and professional employment, complained of the lack of opportunity for Race members to obtain training for the professions, such as medicine and nursing, because, he said, the hospitals, state and private, were closed to them for training and they could not qualify for these professions without that training.

Complains of Prejudice

He also complained that the Race members were discriminated against in Civil Service and in the public utilities.

A. M. Chavous, director of the School of Vocations, Wilberforce university, discussing the Race in building trades, estimated 12,000 Race members were engaged in these trades and more than 60 percent were unemployed. Among the causes of this unemployment he said was "general fear and distrust of organized labor" and "the low educational status of Race workers in the building trades."

Points to Church

A system of apprenticeships, drawing more young men into the industry and a change of attitude on the part of organized labor were suggested by him as remedies.

Lieutenant Oxley said the answer or solution could be obtained only through state legislation and suggested that Ohio might do as New York and Pennsylvania had done and pass laws against discrimination in industry and organized labor.

Rev. E. H. Oxley, rector of St Andrew's Episcopal church, Cincinnati, suggested application of the principles of Christianity in solving the problems.

The findings committee is headed by S. Burns Weston, NYA administrator for the state of Ohio.

TIPS TO 'RED CAPS' CALLED 'NOT WAGES

Pay-Hour Contention Opens Way for $1,920,000 Back-Money Suits

CLEVELAND, March 1.—(AP)—If that dime you tipped a "red cap" is legally a gratuity, the nation's nearly 10,000 railroad terminal and station porters may demand back wages of astronomical magnitude.

The wage and hour division of the Labor Department contends tips are not wages in the meaning of the fair labor standards act This will be determined in the division's pending federal injunction actions.

A wage-hour spokesman estimated that 10,000 "red caps" could sue as of this date for $9,600,000 in back wages and another $9,600,000 in liquidated damages if they are given legal status as railroad or terminal employes.

"As of today," said the wage-hour spokesman, "a 'red cap' who received only tips since the act became effective October 24, 1938, might sue for about $9,600 back wages, representing straight time since the carriers are exempt from time-and-a-half regulations.

"If the porter is ruled an employe, he also can demand as liquidated damages a sum equal to total back wages."

The spokesman added that in many smaller stations "red caps" are hired for janitor work and paid a monthly wage in excess of the minimum hourly requirement—25 cents an hour from October 24, 1938, to October 24, 1939, and 30 cents an hour thereafter.

"Red caps" in Chicago, Cincinnati, Philadelphia, Boston and Memphis, Tenn., have brought suits for back wages.

Red Caps' Wage Ruling Evaded by Bag Charge

CINCINNATI — (ANP) —The red cap porter service at Cincinnati's union terminal will be revolutionized, Thursday, when a system of formal payment of ten cents for each piece of baggage handled is instituted.

Heretofore the traveler's payment has been only by tips, under the new system the red cap is to place on each piece of luggage and each parcel carried a red tag denoting that the charge has been paid.

First Try-out

Cincinnati is the first city in the country in which such a system is being tried out. The red cap coming to work will receive a certain number of red checks. Signing out at night, he will return what checks he has left, plus sufficient money to account for the checks he has affixed to baggage at 10 cents a check.

This change is attributed to litigation between the Wage and Hour Division of the Department of Labor and the terminal company, over the former practice of including tips in the computation of minimum wages.

The red caps will now be paid a fixed and regular wage at the rate of 30 cents an hour.

The Brotherhood of Railway Clerks and the International Brotherhood of Red Caps unions bitterly oppose the public's being made the goat in the paying of the red caps' wages, and are urging travelers to protest to the Interstate Commerce Commission in Washington against the extra charge.

REVEAL RED CAPS COULD SUE FOR NINE MILLION BACK WAGES

Injunction Pleas Already Lodged

By JAMES T. WHITNEY

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The Cincinnati Union Terminal company said in its answer to a wake-hour injunction suit the "redcaps are licensees." The spokesman added that in many smaller stations redcaps are hired for janitor work and paid a monthly wage in excess of the minimum hourly requirement—25 cents an hour from October 24, 1938, to October 24, 1939, and 30 cents an hour thereafter.

Redcaps in Chicago, Cincinnati, Philadelphia, Boston and Memphis have brought suits for back wages.

Claims were filed aaginst the Boston Terminal company for $6,000 back wages on behalf of 75 members of the International Brotherhood of Redcaps. The porters asserted they were forced to sign reports that their daily tips totaled th current $2.40 minimum wage.

The wage hour division Thursday filed its second complaint involving redcaps asking an injunction against the Cleveland Union Terminals company. It charged the corporation failed to pay 65 porters minimum wages totaling an estimated $66,000. The similar Cincinnati Terminal action was filed November 6.

The Cleveland complaint alsc said the company coerced redcaps to report falsely that daily tips averaged 30 cents an hour.

The Cincinnati- Terminal in augurated Feb. 1 a plan under which redcaps are carried on the pay roll at 30 cents an hour. The traveler pays his red cap 10 cents for each parcel carried. The porter turns over these receipts to the company.

Wilberforce Holds Meet On Job Issue

WILBERFORCE, Ohio, April 26 — The sixth annual economic-vocational conference which was held Thursday and Friday at Wilberforce was devoted to the theme "Employment Problems and Opportunities Among Negroes."

Dr. D. Olmonde Walker, president of Wilberforce, opened the conference by calling attention to the fact that unemployment has been designated by President Roosevelt "America's number one problem."

On Thursday night, Dr. Joseph S. Himes, Jr., research director of the Columbus Urban league, delivered the keynote speech of the conference in which he presented a "Survey of Employment Among Negroes in the Middle West."

The second speaker in the Thursday night's program was William O. Walker, editor of the Cleveland Call-Post, and a member of the city council, Cleveland, who urged the use of buying power in order to anchor the jobs now held and to open new ones.

Friday morning Mrs. Cora Jordan White, supervisor of Negro Labor Statistics unit, Ohio State Department of Industrial Relations, addressed the conference and the entire student body on the subject "Prospects of Employment of Negro High School and College Graduates."

Chester J. Gray, field representative, Ohio State Employment Service, discussed "Employment Problems of Negroes in the State of Ohio."

The afternoon session was devoted to a panel discussion of "Outstanding Causes and Possible Remedies for Unemployment Among Negroes," with J. Harvey Kerns, secretary, Division of Negro Welfare, Cincinnati Community chest, as chairman. Other members of the panel were James N. Jones, chairman, executive committee of the Emloyees' Association, Dayton Malleable Iron Wors; George H. Burrer, acting manager, Dayton Office of the Ohio State Employment Service, and Professor A. M. Chavous, director, School of Vocations of Wilberforce. At the conclusion of the panel discussion Dr. Dean S. Yarbrough, head department of sociology, Wilberforce, summarized the conference.

The chairman of the conference was Dr. Milton S. J. Wright, head department of economics, Wilberforce, who organized the conference six years ago, and whose leadership has made it an important middlewestern influence.

Also meeting at Wilberforce on Friday was the executive committee of the Ohio conference on Social Work Among Negroes with the president, Mrs. Alene Boyenton, presiding.

The committee discussed "Trends in Social Wor," devoting special attention to the question of attitudes and methods for changing them, especially those relating to labor unions, the job and civil rights

Negro Employment Opportunities Found Frightfully Limited In Cincy

CINCINNATI, O.—Undoubtedly in line with the City Council Welfare Committee's investigation into Relief Administration in Cincinnati, the City Manager, Col. C. O. Sherrill, recently requested of Assistant County Prosecutor Theo. M. Berry, former President of the NAACP, a statement containing any information which he may have had on the relative employment opportunities for Negroes in Cincinnati as compared with white people. Theo. M. Berry who resides at 821 Rockdale Ave., Avondale, was President of the NAACP for six years and at present is a member of the Executive Committee of Cincinnati Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People; Board of Trustees of Colored Industrial School; Committee of Management of Ninth St. YMCA; Board of Directors—Division of Negro Welfare and Member of Hamilton Prosecutor's Staff.

The reason for City Manager Sherrill's request is not definitely known, but it is believed by many to be an effort to discover why 65.3 percent of the total Negro population of Cincinnati is on relief. If this be true, the statement which Attorney Berry submitted Sherrill is believed by many to be capable in all such respect.

Theo. Berry asserted that though unemployment among white workers—between the years 1933-1939—decreased nearly 16 percent, there was only a mere 9 percent decrease among Negro workers. The significance of this, he said, is paticularly noticeable when it is considered that the Negro population is predominantly a working class, having relatively few in the business and professional group.

Berry said: "A lack of opportunities may be clearly noted from the results of an analysis of placements in the Ohio State Employment Service in Cincinnati for 1939. Of the total 2912 placements of Professional and Clerical workers only 9 were Negroes; of 500 placements of Sales (field work) workers only 88 were Negroes; of 4758 placements of skilled and industrial workers only 128 were Negroes, and of 3375 placements of Labor workers only 850 were Negroes."

Such statistics clearly expound why 65.3 percent of Cincinnati Negroes are on relief. Cincinnati Negroes, said Berry, are victims of Conditions, Attitudes and Forces over which they have little or control.

"Negro youth," said Berry, "are denied opportunity for diversified training as apprentices in new occupations which stultifies their hopes and forces them to compete for the same porter or labor jobs sought by older workers.

"Hence, the problem of intensetense disproportionate unemployment, high relief costs, increased crime of the acquisitive type (burglary, robbery and forgery) with youth being the principal offenders."

As Contributing Factors to his assertions, Attorney Berry listed the following:

"In Private Industry and Business the Negro worker where employable at all is handicapped and denied the opportunity of promotion and advancement on merit and ability because of the practice of confined employment to menial and unskilled occupations. A large number of the principal industries in Cincinnati employ no Negroes at all; for example Proctor and Gamble Company, Crosley Radio Corporation and subsidiaries, United States Playing Card Company and the Baldwin Piano Company.

"The Public Utilities are equally responsible in limiting opportunities for employment of Negroes. The Cincinnati Gas And Electric Company and Cincinnati Street Railway Company employ no Negroes unless in the labor service. If employment was based on a ratio of money spent with these utilities by Negroes the group would be entitled to a more equitable allotment of jobs.

"Public Institutions, where one would reasonably expect a liberal employment policy we find the same practice of limitation and exclusion of Negro workers, except in menial capacities. At Longview Hospital, a State Institution, with a staff of 300 professional and white collar workers, No Negro is employed. In the Cincinnati General Hospital with an empoyee staff of 765 there is one Negro pharmacist and a crew of Negro maids and orderlies. No other nursing, laboratory, technical and clerical positions are occupied by a Negro, notwithstanding the fact that the Hospital has announced a shortage of nurses and that vacancies could be filled without examinations. At the Hamilton County Tuberculosis Sanatarium 54 professional and 350 non-professional workers are employed and there are no Negro workers above the porter class. In the Cincinnati Public Libary with 394 employees only four are Negroes who are assigned to two school branch libraries. There are no other janitorial, clerical, or librarian positions made available for Negro applicants in any of the other branches or Main Library Building women, and 11 camps for 4-H club

"The City of Cincinnati, as a municipal corporation and employer has followed a definite policy of restrictive employment of Negroes. In recent years the practice of hooding civil service examinations based on race has increased although illegal, thus tending to circumscribe the occupational opportunities and is a deterrent for trained Negro aspirants to positions for which they might qualify. Moreover, when appointing officials are allowed to request "White Workers" from the civil service list or select a person lower on the list than a Negro having a higher rating, this creates an "Open Door" policy for discrimination.

The employment of Negroes is restricted to two principal fields: (1) Laborers and Semi-skilled workers in the Highway and Waste Collection Departments; (2) Professional and white-collar postions, wherein duties are confined to Negro groups—for example recreation workers, police, physicians and nurses all assigned to Negro districts. The city employs no Negro auto mechanics, brick masons, or other skilled and clerical workers. Even the janitorial jobs at City Hall are closed to Negroes."

A bit of advice to the City Manager from Attorney Theo. Berry was: "If the city desire to make any approach to the solution of unemployment among Negroes, it must make the initial constructive and persistent efforts by liberalizing its own employment policy. A good example is the best beginning."

"Other organizations which contribute to the limitation of job opportunities for Cincinnati Negroes are: The Vocational Educational System; the indifferent and hostile attitude of organized labor, and last but not least, Universioy of Cincinnati, which says Berry, discourages Negro youth and disuades them from pursuing technical and engineering courses of study under the co-operative system for the reason that local industries will not permit Negroes to work, if at all, other than in limited occupations of the menial or unskilled type."

Berry symmarized his statement to City Manager Sherill with "The above sketched policies and practices forces practically the entire employable Negro group into one limited occupational sphere, namely unskilled and laboring or menial jobs. With technological improvements and business and industrial retardation these types of jobs are limited. Then too, the competition with unemployed white workers reduces further the available jobs, since the element of racial preference cannot be ignored. Hence, Negro workers with better training compete with unskilled workers for the same type of job, with no hope of relieving the pressure so long as opportunities for advancement are closed." "The cost, both social and financial, will continue to mount unless all the forces of the city governmental, industrial, business and social adopt a more vigorous, positive and less selfish attitude toward the problem and its contributing factors. A laissez-faire indifference will never bring a satisfactory solution."

LABOR DEPARTMENT'S WAGE-HOUR DIVISION SEEKS INJUNCTIONS

CINCINNATI, March 14. (By James T. Whitney for ANP)—That dime you tipped a "red cap" is legally a gratuity. The nation's nearly 10,000 railroad and station porters may demand back wages of astronomical magnitude.

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A wage-hour spokesman estimated today 10,000 red caps could sue as of this date for $9,600,000 in back wages and another $9,600,000 in liquidated damages if they are given legal status as railroad or terminal employes.

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The Cleveland complaint also said the company coerced redcaps to report falsely that daily tips averaged 30 cents an hour.

The Cincinnati Terminal inaugurated Feb. 1 a plan under which red caps are carried on the payroll at 30 cents an hour. The traveler pays his red cap 10 cents for each parcel carried. The porter turns over these receipts to the company.

Charge Cincinnati Union Terminal With Labor Act Violation

CINCINNATI, O., March 28—(ANP)—An injunction sought by the government to restrain the Cincinnati Union Terminal company from violating the Fair Labor Standards Act last week was halted until April 8 when a hearing of the suit is scheduled in District court. Continuance of the case came as the result of the terminal company's contention that it is now paying Red Caps the minimum rate of 30 cents an hour under a plan instituted February 1. The government argued that "anything done under the new plan is entirely irrelevant."

District Court Judge Druffel, who early in the session overruled a motion by the International Brotherhood of Red Caps to intervene in last week's injunction proceedings, disqualified himself by this action to serve as trial judge in the $55,000 suit brought against the company by Willard S. Townsend, Chicago, president of the brotherhood, for back wages allegedly due Red Caps. The judge claimed that by his action he had prejudged the Red Caps' suit.

Townsend's suit charges that the Cincinnati Union Terminal Company made fraudulent records of the salaries received by Red Caps, reporting minimum wages whether they received them or not.

Judge Holds That Railroads Can Make Public "Suckers" In Red Cap Wage-Hour Tilt

New Wage System Of Cincinnati Terminal Makes Court Action Moot

Wage Issue Still To Be Adjudicated

By JAMES T. WHITNEY

CINCINNATI, O.—(ANP)—Ruling that the matter is now moot, District Judge John W. Druffel, Monday dismissed a suit in which the wage and hour division, department of labor, sought an injunction to restrain the Cincinnati Union Terminal from violating the Fair Labor Standards act.

The wage and hour division sued Nov. 6, charging that the terminal was paying porters, known as redcaps, less than the minimum wage prescribed by law, thus violating the act. On Feb. 1 the terminal instituted a new wage system, whereby it guaranteed the red caps the minimum wage of 30 cents an hour.

Judge Druffel held that in this situation there was nothing further for him to adjudicate, hence he dismissed the suit.

Arthur E. Reyman and William T. McKnight, former Ohio assistant attorney-general, Cleveland counsels for the wage and hour division, contended on the contrary that the wage and hour division still was entitled to injunctive relief, regardless of changes made after suit was filed.

Before dismissing the case Judge Druffel overruled two motions by the company, one for a summary judgment in its favor and another for dismissal on grounds that Harold D. Jacobs who brought the action as acting administrator of the wage and hour division, no longer is serving in that capacity. Though the action was dismissed later, it was dismissed on different grounds. A suit demanding $55,000 from the terminal as back wages, claimed by the red caps, is pending in district court. This will be heard later by District Judge Robert R. Nevin.

LABOR* 1940
OCCUPATION WAGES ETC.

OHIO

Cincy Red Cap Says First Lady Underpaid Him

SEP 21 1940

CINCINNATI — Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt and Judge Florence Allen of the United States Circuit Court of Appeals underpaid them for carrying their luggage, two red caps testified, Tuesday, at an Interstate Commerce Commission hearing, here.

According to Clinton McDuffy, Mrs. Roosevelt gave him 50 cents for a 70-cent service. He did not apprise her of the oversight, he said, and the Union Terminal Company overlooked the other 20 cents.

Judge Allen paid 25 cents for a 40-cent service, according to Dan Jasper, who said he asked her for the difference, but that she refused to pay.

19 Colored Employees In Ohio Old Age Bureau

COLUMBUS, O. (ANP)—More Negroes are employed by the state division of aid for the aged in positions affording good salaries and responsibility than ever before in the history of the division, T. W. McCaw, chief of the division, announced this week.

McCaw said that there are now 19 Negroes employed by the Division at an average salary of $1,500 a year. This figure is far higher than the number of Negroes employed by any other administration according to all available records.

Negro Newspapers Are Included In WPA Abstracting Project

CLEVELAND—(SNS)— A Negro newspaper digest will be produced by WPA workers on a project recently put into operation here. It will be the first digest of Negro newspapers to be made by the WPA. Announcement of the undertaking was made last week by Miss Marion F. Wilson, district director, Professional and Service Projects, WPA.

Eleven persons are now employed on the project, among them several newspaper men and college graduates. From this nucleus, the project will be developed to a total personnel of 30 workers. A thorough training period, necessary for the efficient conduct of the digest, precedes the actual assumption of duties which will include the abstracting of news items, features

To Be First Digest Of Race Journals

and editorials from four selected Negro weekly newspapers. The abstracts will be taken from files dating back to 1937.

The material abstracted will reflect the life and culture of the Negro population of Cleveland and the attitude of Negro citizens toward economic, civic, social and educational problems of the present day, as highlighted in the press. The digest also is expected to provide an interesting index to the progress and success of Negroes both in Cleveland and elsewhere.

A sample volume of the Negro Press Digest, containing abstracts taken from the January 1937 files of the selected weeklies, will be released next month, according to the plans announced by Miss Wilson. From the standpoint of the workers employed, the project is expected to have a twofold value. It will provide additional experience for research and editorial workers in their chosen field, and also give to those having no previous experience, a chance to develop new professional skills.

The project is supervised by Oscar Ban as an addition to the Cleveland Foreign Language Newspaper Digest.

Rehearing Asked In Cleveland Court In Red Caps Wage Suit

SEP 14 1940

Cleveland, Ohio—Faced with an order to furnish a list of all tips received by every red cap in the Cleveland Union Terminal for more than a year, the Wage and Hour Division on Wednesday moved in the Federal Court to have this order rescinded. The motion was filed in the Federal Court for the Northern District of Ohio Eastern Division, and seeks to rescind an order entered on August 6 which would have required the Division, among other things, to furnish the list of all tips received by the red caps on each of approximately 500 days, covered in a previous complaint filed by the Division against the Cleveland Union Terminal Company.

The motion for a rehearing on the Terminal Company's motion for an order to make the Division's petition more definite, was filed by Arthur E. Reyman, regional attorney for the Divion, on behalf of Philip B. Fleming, Administrator of the Wage and Hour Division.

In support of one of the grounds of the motion, the Division contended that if the particulars demanded of the Administrator were required to be furnished it would greatly hinder the enforcement of the Fair Labor Standards Act through [illegible] proceedings. It was pointed out that the remedy of injunction provided in the statute is "prospective and preventive" as distinguished from criminal proceedings which, it is averred, are "retrospective and punitive."

It was also pointed out that the government's case did not contemplate the recovery of back wages, as a suit by employees would, and therefore, the requirement to allege all hours worked and all tips received would be "at variance with the true character of plaintiff's (Division's) action."

"If a complaint filed by the Administrator, charged with the expeditious enforcement of the statute, must set forth with the specificity of an indictment every detail of every underpayment to every employee, notwithstanding that many employers subject to the provisions of the Act employ thousands of employees, it is difficult to see how the remedy by injunction can remain any more efficient or expeditious than any other type of remedies," argument in support of the Division's motion declares.

The Division, according to Regional Attorney Reyman, filed a suit for injunction against the Terminals Company, alleging the company was counting tips received by red caps from the traveling public as wages, although the Division contends that whether or not tips are considered wages, the Company violated the Fair Labor Standards Act, which requires payment of at least 30 cents an hour to all employees engaged in interstate commerce.

In addition to asking the Court for a rehearing on the Terminals Company's motion, Regional Attorney Reyman asked the court to grant an oral hearing on the issue, and to extend the time for the Division to further plead or otherwise act for a period of 10 days after the court's ruling on the motion filed, Wednesday.

Brown Bomber Baking Co., Program Creates Jobs For Scores Of Negroes

Negroes in Philadelphia spend on the average of $14,500 a week for bread alone, according to an authentic city-wide survey recently concluded by a group of Ngro experts.

Yet, prior to the local advent of the Brown Bomber Baking Co., Inc., which converged on Philadelphia in November, 1939, very little of $14,500 found its way into Negro pay envelopes. Tribune 3-28-40

But, the stage has been changed. The Brown Bomber Baking Co., Inc., which has enjoyed five and one half months of successful operation in Philadelphia, is doing a $1400 weekly volume of business, and is giving employment to a large number of Negro workers. Philadelphia, Pa.

JOBS OBJECTIVE

The objective of the Brown Bomber Baking Co., Inc., is to garner all the Negro business it can, so as to be able to operate successfully and create jobs for Negroes.

"They are the people who create a proportionate number of jobs in the bread industry, and are the persons who deserve the fruits from their expenditure.

That opinion was expressed last week by Macy McO'Neal, founder of the Brown Bomber Baking Co., Inc., at his office at 7th street below Germantown avenue.

Under the same guiding forces that direct the destinies of the New York Brown Bomber Baking Co., Inc., the Philadelphia unit increased its volume of business from $580 the first week to its present volume of $1400 per week.

LONG RANGE PROGRAM

Consequently, a long range program is planned. It is the company's hope to control at least $10,000 of the Philadelphia Negro bread market and to invade Negro markets adjacent to Philadelphia.

McO'Neal made a survey of the Philadelphia market in August, 1939, along with James Bluford. They decided that there was practically the same amount of business here as was in New York. They made contacts and established a $10,000 cash and reserve fund to start a Philadelphia business.

The Brown Bomber Baking Co., Inc., is entirely owned and operated by Negroes. It was started with a capital of only $200. The monthly business shows now, however, an average of $250,000 business annually.

It was in March, 1938, that Macy McO'Neal, who was employed by a ginger ale company in Detroit, Mich., noticed the large sums of money taken out of stores daily by white bread salesmen.

He became interested, and made a survey of stores in the Negro districts. He found there was over a million dollars worth of bread sold to Negroes yearly, and that the Negro business created jobs for more than 400 men and women.

Continuing his investigation, McO'Neal wrote several major baking companies in Detroit, relative to Negro employment, etc., but received no answers. He called on various companies personally, and was told there were no openings for Negroes as drivers or any other white collar jobs.

McO'Neal then thought about starting a bread baking company himself. He interested Sherman Hibbitt and they pooled $200 and launched the Brown Bomber Baking Company.

$4.60 FIRST DAY

They purchased a truck contracted an out-of-town baking company to do the baking, and did $4.60 worth of business the first day.

One year later, they were running seven trucks, and doing a daily business of $200.

Later, McO'Neal sold his interests to Hibbett, less 15 per cent and settled in New York. He organized the company in New York with less than $1,000 capital and a sufficient amount of credit to conduct the business starting in February.

Six weeks from now the Brown Bomber Baking Company will own its own plant in New York. It will be established at a cost of $100,000 at 1326 Prospect avenue.

Officials of the company have secured the services of Robert Chapman, chief engineer for a Philadelphia baking concern, and one of the best qualified Negroes in his field.

Race Must Organize For Job Protection

(Editor's Note:—Because of the poor record of labor unions generally where the Negro worker is concerned, it is very difficult to get Negro labor or employer to look with favor on the organized labor movement. Nevertheless, organized labor has its advantages. The following article, written by B. D. Amis, secretary-treasurer, Catering Industry Employees' Union, No. 758, AFL, is intended to explain the Union's methods and the purpose of its drive for organization.) 3.21-40

By B. D. AMIS

The time has come when all must organize for job protection. Some years ago, it was commonly known that jobs in the service industry were "colored folks' jobs". Hotel, domestic, barbering, catering, etc., were fields controlled by the colored workers. But bit by bit the white workers, through their organizations, brought about by economic conditions, practically crowded us out. The main weapon used to accomplish this was the trade union.

The colored worker was slow to respond to unionization. It is true that oftimes certain barriers prevented them from joining trade union. But today a new day, and a new leadership is on the scene. We recognize the mistakes of the past, but cannot permit these mistakes to hinder our progress today. The mistakes are being corrected. Greater progress will be made if the colored workers join with those who are fighting against the worsening of their living conditions. This unity will make more secure our economic position.

Must Keep Our Jobs

Local No. 758 has entered the picture to do the specific job of organizing the unorganized colored workers of the service industry. It has also the task of keeping the few jobs left to our pepole, as well as trying to get back some we have lost.

With this in mind, a drive has been made to unionize the caterers. A number of the largest institutions have signed agreements with our local. Others have not. Our task is to use the power gained from legislation and from the experiences of the trade union movement, to organize these houses and to represent the workers as their bargaining agent in all matters affecting their working conditions.

New Day Here

The general trend among liberal employers is to establish working relationships with the trade union. The day has passed when the trade union is looked upon as subversive organization trying to wreck the business of the employer.

The union has a place in our system, as the recognized bargaining unit of the employees. It can assist the employer to better understand the requirements of the employes, and vice versa. Failure to recognize this place as one in the backward position of being anti-union. Good employers are few. Exploitation of man by man increases as competition sharpens.

Element of Few

The very nature of the service industry creates a relationship between employer and employee that is unknown in other industries. Loyalty and identification with the employer's interests have given rise to a feeling of dependency, accepting his judgment on all matters concerned. As a result of this relationship, an element of fear arises in the worker when the union appears on the scene. This attitude of absolute dependency is a detriment to the interests of the workers. The employer who encourages and abets such attitudes impedes not only labor, but himself.

Our local, in its drive, selects no particular employer, but desires to establish working relationships with all as a prerequisite to saving the industry for colored workers.

Certain standards have been established by trade unions. We want our people to benefit from them.

4 Given Jobs With 'Phone Company Here

Opens Employment Avenue To Negroes; All House Service Men

The avenue of employment was opened to Negroes by the Bell Telephone Company, which last Saturday hired four Negro youths as house service men, a janitorial capacity. Tribune 4-18-40

The youths are, H. A. Johnston, Jr., of 1203 south 19th street, son of Detective Hillery Johnston, special investigator, attached to the office of Herbert E. Millen, assistant director of Public Safety; F. A. Dunmore, of 4204 Woodland avenue; M. E. Henry, of 1943 north 18th street, and H. E. Bouden, of 331 north 40th street.

Johnston and Dunmore are employed at the company's building at 1835 Arch street, and Henry and Bouden are working at the 17th and Arch sts. building.

A Bell Telephone Company official said, on Tuesday, that the positions given the youths are permanent. They are now serving a probationary period.

Negro Waiters Win In Fight Against Union For Jobs In Newly Opened "Cotton Club"

Victory Follows Ban By Union On Job Issue; Arbitrators Rule In Favor Of Negroes

By JOSEPH WOODS

"The (colored) waiter with the water" failed to show up at the opening of the Cotton Club (formerly Delmonico's restaurant), at 1309 Walnut street, on April 14; but that wasn't his fault. The fact is—somebody waited, and he didn't.

What sweetened things more was the detail that four of the 14 men who didn't work are said to have joined the union (local 758, AFL) specifically for the Cotton Club job.

However, the fourteenth came, colored waiters went to the club, arranged (a waiter would say "set up") the tables, and waited—for the crowd to come. But somehow, before the crowd arrived, a corps of white waiters (local 301, AFL) walked in, probably smiled gratefully at the Negroes for "setting up" the tables, then made the money.

The colored waiters probably smiled back; then, towels on arms, hats in hands, and love for all mankind (including the union) in their hearts, they went home.

They hadn't been told before they went on the job that the Cotton Club management had an unexpired contract with the white waiters' local, but—

The management hadn't thought that necessary since it was running a colored floor show and employing all colored kitchen help. Furthermore, the very name of the establishment was suggestive enough.

Arbitrators Rule

But apparently, the arrangement hadn't pleased either party—the white local or, least of all, the colored local. Last Friday, consequently, both 301 and 758, the Local Joint Board (AFL), of which the locals are members, and three arbitrators met.

The arbitrators ruled, by a vote of two to one, that Negro waiters should work in the Cotton Club starting tomorrow (Friday).

But the victory of the colored local has not entirely ended the struggle. Some labor sniping is still going on, which B. D. Amis, secretary-treasurer of 758, characterizes as "guerilla warfare," carried on by the Public Waiters' Beneficial Association, an independent and non-union Negro body.

And, strangely, one reason for the colored local's fight-to-the death encounter for the Cotton Club job was to give it ammunition—in the form of new fields for Negro waiters—to combat the accusation of the Public Waiters.

The Public Waiters' Beneficial Association, as described by Amis, is "now without a leg to stand on, although in former times (25 years ago) it ruled Negro food handlers" in Philadelphia and vicinity.

However, he said, it lost prominence and power because it "did not keep pace" with modern labor trends. These trends have been toward better wages and working conditions and shorter hours, he explained.

He was careful to attribute the association's lost of prestige to its being reactionary, and not to the efficiency of its members. "They he said, are "well-qualified" for their work."

"Fooled Men Into Joining"

Nevertheless, A. S. Slater, a member of P.W.B.A.'s board of directors who can recall the association's history from 1907 (one year before its incorporation), contended that the union has "fooled men into joining."

He said the union represented by 758 promised prospective members 10 jobs each month, but has failed to keep the promise; and after joining the men, who are listed on a "dope sheet," in more than one instance, do not work once a month.

Further, the union promised to open new "houses" (places of work, usually hotels) to colored waiters, and has failed. He accused it with failure to keep its promise to shorten work hours and raise wages. Instead, he claims, waiters, working 10 hours, continue to receive $4 for jobs in Wilmington and $5 for private (caterers') work here in the city.

In 1925, Slater said, men with P.W.B.A. received $5 for jobs in Wilmington.

Verbal Agreement

Amis claims 758 has a verbal agreement with caterers not to accept less than $5 for work in places as far as Wilmington and Trenton. Formal agreement, he stated, would be made in the local's next contract.

Further, Slater said the union has failed to fulfill its promise to lighten waiters' work by eliminating the necessity of making fruit cup and doing general stevedore work, such as unloading trucks preparatory to "setting up" tables.

Amis admitted April 25 was the "first time extra men had ever been used to do the stevedore work and prepare fruit cup." This job was at Girard College, where the waiters were expected to carry their trays up four flights of steps, he said.

Slater accused the union of failing to keep its promise to open up new "houses" to Negro waiters. He said that colored waiters worked in the Benjamin Franklin and Majestic hotels on "party work only," but never as regular men in the main dining room.

Cites Broadwood Hotel

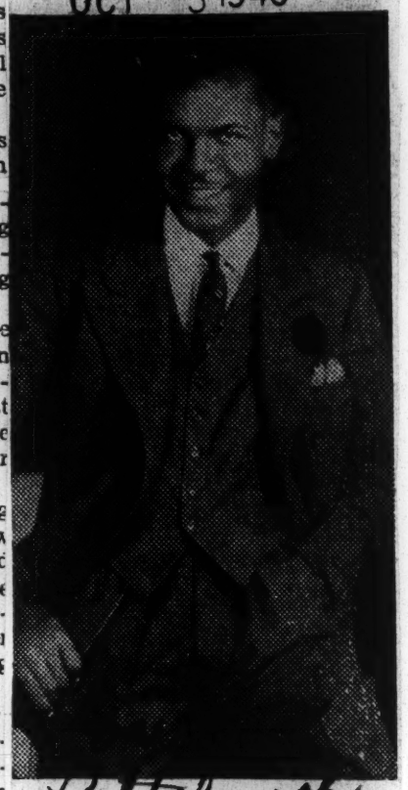
The local's secretary-treasurer produced lists of waiters who had worked or are to work in the main dining room (April—24, 30 men) of the Broadwood Hotel and the Cotton Club (May 3, 14 men).

He stated that Negroes had never before worked in the main dining room of the Broadwood, although they are hired in the coffee room.

In answer to Slater's charge of union segregation—"the colored local itself"—and the discrepancy in wages received by colored and white waiters, Amis said it was impossible to place Negroes in such "houses" as the Ritz-Carlton and the Bellevue-Stratford because they were under contract with the CIO.

ON TOUR

OCT 5 1940



Lloyd Smith, representative of the Werner & Hilton Clothing company of St. Louis, Mo., who has been sent by the firm on a tour to further familiarize himself with the clothing industry. He will visit factories in New York and other eastern cities.

Award Negro Caterer Contract To Serve G. O. P. Convention

Oge
6/22/40
New York N. Y.

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Announcement is made by the Committee of Arrangements of the Republican National Committee that the catering services in connection with the Republican National Convention to be held in Philadelphia beginning June 24, has been awarded to the John W. Holland Company of Philadelphia owned by William Newman, one of the most enterprising Negro businessmen in the country. This is the most important concession the Republican Committee ha awarded.

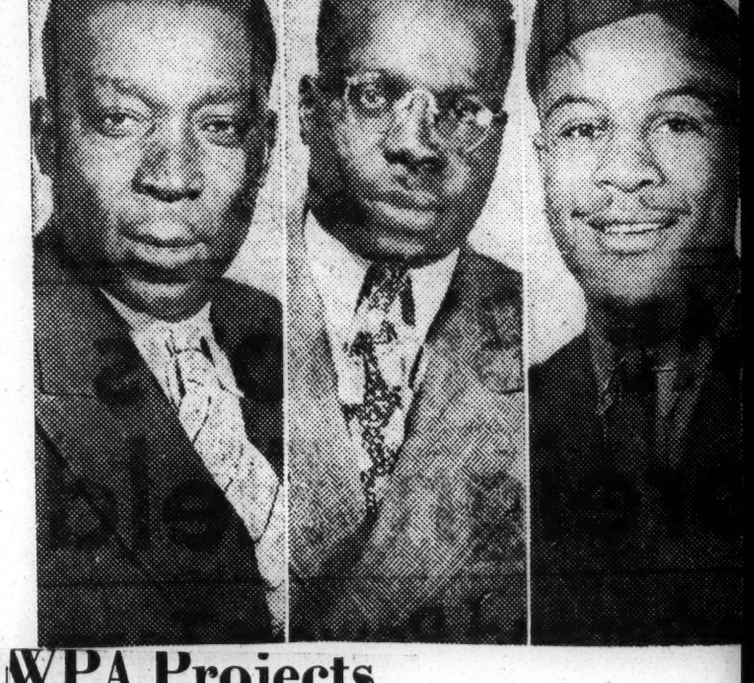
Guide Destinies of CCC Camp

THESE MEN form the all-Negro administrative staff at the CCC company 1355 located at Gettysburg, Pa. This camp has the distinction of having all of its activities directed by members of the race.

They are. left to right: top row—Lt. George W. Webb, commander; Lt. Philip T. Atkins, subaltern; Granville W. Woodson, project superintendent; and Peter C. Williams, chaplain.

Second row—Dr. Louis E. King, historian; Theodore S. Smith, landscape architect; Benson L. Dutton, blue print expert; William McNeill, engineer; Lewis Ulem, engineer and mechanic.

Bottom row—A. Robinson, educational adviser; Emanuel Davis foreman; Lain L. Lee, foreman and Sergeant Harry Stevenson, senior leader.



WPA Projects Aid Drop In Relief Rolls

Private Employment Aids Decline; 184,881 Cases Left On Rolls

HARRISBURG, Pa. — The Work Projects Administration will keep "open house" for the citizenry of Pennsylvania next week.

About 1,000 projects of the WPA Professional and Service Divisions will welcome public inspection from May 20 to 25, thereby joining the nation in celebrating "This Work Pays Your Community" week.

Colonel Philip Matthews, State Administrator, today made public his invitation to every citizen to visit the projects in each community during the week and he is making arrangements to make visiting available on the projects at hours convenient to the public.

This week's "Open House" will start with exhibitions of the recreational work done by WPA in more than a thousand communities throughout the State. These exhibitions will be held Monday night, May 20

LABOR- 1940
OCCUPATION, WAGES, ETC.

PENNSYLVANIA

Race Men Direct Entire Gettysburg CCC Program

Journal and Guide 5/18/40 Norfolk, Va.

GETTYSBURG, Pa. — Out of 1,500 CCC camps in the United States, one has the distinction of being directed entirely by an all-Negro administrative personnel, the only such camp in the United States.

In Adams County, Pa., of which Gettysburg is the county seat, Company 1355 CCC, Camp NP-2, under the command of Lt. George W. Webb, a graduate of Howard University, is situated. Not until one has experienced a trip through the fruit belt of Adams County in Apple Blossom Time can the true beauty that nature affords be fully realized. The splendor of the country side is enhanced by the array of thousands upon thousands of blossoming fruit trees blended into a picture of spring at its best.

Nestled on the gentle slopes of the Piedmont in Adams County are orchards totaling 513,304 apple trees, 238,643 peach trees and 121,-141 cherry trees. Adams County within two hours' drive from Washington, D. C., is first among the 67 counties in Pennsylvania in value of the firuit products produced.

It is first in the production of apples and the second largest peach producing county in the state of Pennsylvania.

Visitors out driving on Sunday afternoons will find much hospitality in and around the camp grounds should they find it convenient to visit the same. Officers are on duty 24 hours per day to carry out the duties for the War Department and for the Department of the Interior or the National Park Service.

Granville W. Woodson, B. S., University of Pittsburgh, and M. A., Howard University, is the project superintendent.

Adams County is the only county of any state in the country that has an all-Negro administrative personnel in charge of a Negro CCC Camp. One other camp in New York has Negro officers, but not a technical personnel. The following list composed the list of members of the administrative personnel:

Army Personnel—Lieut. George W. Webb, company commander, B. S., Howard University; Lieut. Phillip I. Atkins, subaltern, B. S., Howard University; Lieut. Peter C. Williams, chaplain, T.H.B., B.D., Wilberforce University; A. Robinson, camp educational adviser.

Technical Personnel — Granville W. Woodson, project superintendent, B.S., University of Pittsburgh, M.A., Howard University; Theodore S. Smith, landscaping architect, B.S. and M.S., Syracuse University; Benson L. Dutton, blue print expert, B.S., Pennsylvania State; William C. McNeill, civil engineer, B.S., University of Pennsylvania; Lain Lee, foreman; Emanuel Davis, foreman.

Local Red Caps Each Suing For $2000 Pay

Seeking to collect approximately $2,000 each in back pay, more than 100 Redcaps from Philadelphia and Atlantic City will bring suit against the Baltimore and Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Reading railroads, M. Herbert Syme announced Monday. Lewis Tanner Moore, assistant district attorney, is co-counsel for the Redcaps.

No date has been set for the hearing.

The decision to make a court fight of the issue followed the institution May 1 of a ruling by the railroads requiring redcaps to charge 10 cents for each piece of baggage carried thereby abolishing the tip system.

"We are bringing suit against three railroads to recover minimum wages for more than 100 Redcaps and railroad porters in Philadelphia and Atlantic City," counsel for the men said.

$12.60 Week For Men

"Under the Federal Wage and Hour Act, these men are entitled to a guarantee of 30 cents an hour for the work, or $12.60 for a 42-hour week.

"The railroads against which suit will be brought are the Baltimore and Ohio, the Pennsylvania, and the Reading. Since the passage of the Wage and Hour Act, the lines affiliated with the American Association of Railroads have usually been operating under a plan which guaranteed the porters the difference between their tips and the minimum wage.

"It is our contention that tips are not wages and cannot be applied towards the legal minimum.

"If the suit is successful, each man will be paid twice the minimum wages from October 24, 1938, to May 1, 1940. This will mean approximately $2,000 for each Redcap."

New System Bars Tips

Under the present setup, the Redcaps must attach a tag to each bag or package for which he collects 10 cents, instead of a voluntary tip as he did prior to May 1.

The new system, Redcaps say, has led to difficulties with "customers", who ordinarily would give a tip, but who balk at being forced to pay for having their bags carried.

$2.40 Daily Guarantee

However, the railroads now guarantee each Redcap $2.40 a day, from which he must pay one dollar a month into a relief, three per cent for retirement tax, plus a city tax, A. J. McGhee, vice president of the International Brotherhood of Redcaps, said two weeks ago in an interview.

The 10-cents-a-bag system was first tried by the Cincinnati Union Terminal company in March at Cincinnati's Union Terminal, where 94 men are employed.

System Followed ICC Ruling

It followed a series of court hearings all over the country, which dated from October, 1938, when the Interstate Commerce Commission ruled that Redcaps are employees and subject to the provisions of the Railway Labor Act.

At the time of the ICC ruling, it was found that Redcaps could be fired at the whim of the stationmaster; that their hours of work were inordinately long; and their requests for improved conditions were being ignored.

Pullman Porters Eye Monopoly Case Against Pullman Co.

PHILADELPHIA. — (ANP)— A suit, engaging the attention of Pullman Porters throughout the country, was filed here in federal District Court Friday by the department of justice against the Pullman companies and 31 individuals, including nationally known financial leaders, in a civil action to sever control of sleeping car manufacture from operating of equipment.

Among those named are J. Pierpont Morgan, Richard K. Mellon, Sewell L. Avery, Alfred P. Sloan, Jr., Harold S. Vanderbilt, George Whitney, C. W. Seabury, and H. S. Morgan, all directors of one or more of the companies.

The complaint charges Pullman companies with refusing to operate modern lightweight railroad equipment purchased by the railroads from any manufacturer other than the Pullman-Standard Car Manufacturing company, and threatening to withdraw the existing sleeping car service and operations if railroads should buy and operate themselves any cars made by other manufacturers.

"Artificial and unreasonably high prices for Pullman accommodations, and noncompetitive terms made with railroads furnished with sleeping car service by the Pullman organization through its alleged monopoly" was further charged in the statement.

The Pullman company is declared to own nearly 6,000 sleeping cars, many of which are more than 20 years old, and "in an endeavor to protest these obsolete cars from the competition of new types of rolling stock, forced the railrads to use existing equipment and prevented them from operating lightweight, streamlined sleeping cars."

As a result, t was alleged, "the production of modern railroad equipment by independent manufacturers and its use by the railroads have been hamstrung."

The anti-trust division of the department of justice has been studying the Pullman company for some time, it was revealed, and is proceeding by civil action rather than by criminal action because the contracts between the Pullman organization and the railroads which contain provisions alleged to be in restraint of trade have been publicly recorded for many years with the Interstate Commerce commission.

As the suit progresses, it may tie up Pullman service, resulting in temporary unemployment for many thousands of Pullman workers.

Stenographers' Jobs Plentiful In Federal Civil Service

THE TRIBUNE has been informed by a reliable source that more placements of junior and senior stenographers are going to be made in the local federal service in the next six or twelve months than have been made in a generation.

This is a splendid opportunity for qualified colored men and women to secure an application blank, fill it out properly, and take the examination. The applications for these examinations must be returned not later than July 22.

If you are interested, go to the Customs House, get a list of pending examinations, secure an application blank, and take the examination. You can not be appointed unless you qualify; and you can not qualify without taking the examination.

Labor Secretary To Aid Negro In Getting Jobs

DEC 12 1940
Phila. Tribune

HARRISBURG—The Negro in labor was promised the support of Lewis G. Hines, secretary of labor and industry, Monday at a meeting of the colored unionists and labor leaders of Pennsylvania.

Phila Pa.

One of the charges made at the meeting was the discrimination of the Negro at the Philadelphia Navy Yard.

"I promise to give my full support, within my power, to the settling of this problem, once and for all," Lewis said, in commenting on the problems of colored freight handlers, laundry workers, and unskilled workers.

5590 Persons Leave Relief Rolls For Jobs

Replace Workers Leaving WPA For Work In Private Industry

1-18-40

During the first week of 1940 Pennsylvania's general assistance rolls continued the downward movement which had prevailed for the last four months of 1939. The week's net drop of 1,700 cases (5,590 persons) brought the net cumulative reduction in the rolls since the end of August to approximately 242,000 persons. On January 6 the general assistance rolls throughout the State numbered 202,345 cases (593,618 persons).

As in the closing weeks of the old year, the principal factor behind the decline in case load was turnover in WPA employment which resulted from the assignment of general assistance recipients as replacements for workers laid off by WPA or leaving projects to take jobs in private industry. The balance between case openings and closings associated with WPA was favorable by a margin of 1,420 cases (4,504 persons).

PRIVATE JOBS GAIN

Cases leaving State relief rolls during the week because of current gains in private employment numbered 1,217 (including 4,569 persons) as compared with 1,978 cases (7,254 persons) added to the rolls because of past employment losses. Thus the direct net effect of changes in private employment was to increase general assistance rolls by 761 cases (2,685 persons).

The closing of 325 cases because of transfers to old-age assistance and 637 cases because of transfers to aid to dependent children contributed in a large measure to the week's case load reduction. In addition to the cases closed there were 518 cases in which the assistance grant was decreased because the transfer of some, but not all, of the family's need for general assistance. These transfers represented a financial saving to the State because the Federal government participates in the grant payments to recipients of old-age assistance and aid to dependent children, whereas general assistance grants are paid entirely by the State. The old-age assistance transfers during the week were the first of a large number of such transfers expected to result from a provision of the State Public Assistance Law of 1937 which, effective January 1, 1940, reduced the age requirement for old-age assistance from 70 years to 65 years.

AGE REQUIREMENTS

The provision of the State Public Assistance Law reducing the age requirement for old age assistance eligibility should not be confused with the newly effective provision of the Federal Social Security Law, which provides monthly old-age insurance benefits for aged persons whose earnings have been subject to social security payroll taxes. The old-age insurance system is administered by the Federal Social Security Board and is entirely separate and distinct from the old-age assistance program which is administered by the State Department of Public Assistance and County Boards of Assistance. Like any other insurance system, Federal old-age insurance is set up on an actuarial basis and benefits are paid regardless of need, whereas old-age assistance is granted on the basis of need only with consideration given to the income and resources of related persons living in the same household with the applicant as one family.

Applications for general assistance during the week totaled 6,626—an increase of 2,173 over the figure for the previous week. This rise, however reflected the fact that county assistance offices were open for one day more than during the preceding week.

Hints That Labor Department Can't And Isn't Going To Do Anything For Negro And Jews

Says State Gives Facilities, But Work Must Be Done By Groups; Rhodes Hits Job Restrictions

1-31-40

The Negro workman must help himself if he wants equality in labor, Lewis G. Hines, secretary of the Department of Labor and Industry in Pennsylvania, told high State and City officials at the Department's luncheon-conference last Saturday at the Southwest-Belmont YWCA, 1605 Catharine street.

Joseph V. Baker, head of the Division of Special Research and chairman of the discussion, stated the meeting was in connection with a campaign by the State "to do something toward the rehabilitation of the Negro workman."

"If the Negro and Jewish peoples are going to accomplish anything," Hines said, "they must do it of their own efforts. The Department can't and isn't going to do anything for you.

"We give you the facilities, but the real work must be done by you who are to be the beneficiaries."

E. Washington Rhodes, Republican State Representative and chairman of the Commission to Study the Conditions of the Urban Colored Population in Pennsylvania, attacked Hines on the prejudice of the unions.

HITS RESTRICTIONS

"Can any man or woman here, by any stretch of the imagination—and I'm speaking to the white especially—tell me Negroes are so dumb that not one of them could run a trolley car, or an elevator in a first class office building, or a taxicab, or work as a phone operator, or read a gas or electric meter?"

Hines, once a high official in the AFL, answered that the Negro's lack of intelligence or the unions did not keep him off such jobs. It was the private segregation policies of these companies.

The unions could do nothing about causing a change in these policies because they dated back beyond the establishment of the unions, he said.

Other speakers were Richard P. Brown, Secretary of Commerce; T. Arnold Hill, Secretary of Labor and Industry for the National Urban League; Ernest Kelly, executive director of the Bureau of Unemployment Compensation; Dr. Gladys G. Ide, director of Public School Special Education in Philadelpnia; Dr. Paul Cressman, director of the Bureau of Instruction (Dept. of Public Instruction); David Connelly, assistant secretary to Gov. James; Warner D. Curry, business manager of the Philadelphia Photo Engravers; Dr. John H. Brodhead, principal of the Arnold public school; and Bishop David H. Sims, chairman of the State Advisory Council.

Among others at the conference were:

C. F. Bauder, acting director of City Vocational Education; Wayne L. Hopkins, executive secretary of the Armstrong Association; Anna B. Sandt, special women's representative of the Bureau of Employment and Unemployment Compensation; Elinor J. Barnes, head of the Psychology Department at Beaver College; T. A. Lemon, dean of men at Cheyney; Mary W. Perry, WPA consultant for Production Projects; Maude B. Coleman, interracial consultant for the Department of Welfare; Marion Conner, executive assistant in the Department of Labor; Raleigh H. Merritt, president of Negro Chamber of Commerce (Phila.); Mamie M. Thomas, Pennsylvania Negro field superintendent in NYA; Mamie E. Davis, general secretary of Southwest-Belmont YWCA; James H. Duckrey, superivising principal of the Harrison public school; Walter D. Ross, director of publicity for the Pennsylvania Department of Commerce;

J. Herbert Walker, director of tourist publicity for the Department of Commerce; Reginald P. Talbot, Allegheny county projects supervisor (DPA); George W. Blount, publicity director at Cheyn-

Push Drive Here For Law To Give Domestics Aid In Wages, Hours

A new day will dawn for Philadelphia's approximately 33,000 Negro domestics when they make themselves a "must" in their employers' homes, according to Mrs. Nellie Napper Hazell, organizer of the Association of Pennsylvania Employment Agents.

Mrs. Hazell, an employment agency operator, said that such recognition could come only through training would-be domestics to take over the more responsible duties of the household.

She called attention to a recent statement made by Dr. Amey E. Watson, executive secretary of the National Council on Household Employment, that trained workers are necessary to improve the domestic's labor status.

"We want to stabilize and strengthen the American home by having in it workers as competent as those employed by the man of the house in his office," said Dr. Watson.

Budgeting should be foremost of the subjects taught, Mrs. Hazell declared, and remarked that she knew a female domestic who takes care of her employee's budgeting, paying all the household's bills.

She pointed out that $7 or $8 a week was the average pay of a Negro domestic, while whites receive from $10 to $15 a week for doing the same work.

Refusing to concede that white domestics are more intelligent than Negro domestics, she quoted white employers as saying, "Negroes don't know what to do with money when they get it" or they "hate to see a Negro make an easy dollar."

She related instances when white employers have called her office for a "white cook," and were willing to pay $15 a week for one. As an experiment she had said she had no "white cooks," and wouldn't a colored one be just as suitable.

Yes, a colored cook would be suitable, but the prospective employer could pay her only $10 a week instead of $15. The reason they give, she said, was that Negroes were not qualified.

"With training and elimination of their inferiority complex, Negroes could very easily overcome this situation.

"At present, since there are no means of formally training domestics," she said, "the only test of merit the employment agent can use are the domestic reference, and the knowledge of her trade she claims to have."

Seek Protection

The National Council of Household Employment, headed by Dr. Watson, is attempting to secure the same protection and recognition for domestics that workers in other trades have. It also plans to raise the standards of efficiency of domestics through training schools.

Philadelphia's school, located at 2005 Pine street and training both white and colored, has been closed because of lack of funds.

"Organizing domestics into a union would be a powerful factor in securing better conditions," Mrs. Hazel stated, "but as yet, no union has been formed.

"The nearest thing to one is the Domestic Workers' Organizing committee, with headquarters at 511 south 21st street."

TRUTH

Prejudices Real Reason For Negro Unemployment

COMPLACENCY is the worst enemy of democracy, according to Dr. Alexander Stoddard, Superintendent of Philadelphia Public Schools.

We are in complete agreement with that assertion.

The worst enemy of colored Americans are those colored people who accept platitudes and dodge unpleasant truths when discussing "the problem" of colored people with members of the dominant group.

In the first place, it is not necessary to hide facts behind sweet mouthings which mean absolutely nothing. If those who join in a conference desire to hear only those things which are pleasing to their vanity their attendance is at best an attempt to cover up the truth.

In the second place, if colored men and women sincerly desire to help, let us say, colored people to secure gainful employment, they must tell those who control employment the truth.

It is downright stupid, yes, positively criminal, for any group of colored citizens to accept the dogma that the only cause for unemployment among colored people is the lack of proper training.

There is not a man or woman, white or black, who knows anything about social problems, who believes that the disproportionately large number of unemployed colored people is even primarily due to lack of training.

This newspaper is in full accord with any program which has as its purpose adequate training for colored people. As a matter of fact, it advocates the training of colored people for skilled positions in every phase of human endeavor. But the problem is not so easily solved. There are positive prejudices both on the part of employers and employees which bar colored men and women from securing work, despite the fact that they are fully prepared to do the work.

In fact this angle of the problem is more difficult to solve than getting colored workers prepared.

It is human nature for people to prepare themselves for jobs which they reasonably expect to obtain. That is the crux of the whole case. Colored people realize that many avenues of employment are closed to them. They, therefore, do not study those types of work. Perhaps they should; but they would be supermen if they did.

The point of this editorial, boiled down, is this: Colored people who call themselves leaders can not afford to give the leaders of business, government, and organized labor a distorted picture of the truth concerning unemployment. If the problem is ever solved, it will be because men and women face the facts squarely and courageously. And the truth is that prejudice is the chief evil which keeps colored men and women in the breadline.

5 Negroes Die In Pittsburgh Tunnel Cave-In

NOV 8 1940

PITTSBURGH, Nov. 7 (UP).—Five Negro workers were killed today when a tunnel in Stowe Township collapsed as they were repairing the passageway. Another Negro was injured.

First victim removed from the debris was Charles Rosenborough. The injured man, Willie Peay, of Pittsburgh, was taken to Ohio Valley hospital, where he was found to be suffering from a possible fractured neck vertebrae and scalp lacerations.

Less than six hours after the collapse, Stowe Township police and firemen, aided by volunteer rescue workers, had removed the remaining victims from the debries.

The other men killed were Harper Fair, 34; Haywood Turner, John Wright, 37 and George Russell, 31, all of Pittsburgh.

Spartanburg, S. C., Herald
July 14, 1940

Negro, First Fireman on Old Glenn Springs Railroad, Now Retired After Life on Rails

Bill Austin Widely Known Among Railroaders for Several Decades

BY GLEN W. NAVES

"John Henry was a railroad man—"

Thus runs a ballad about the dusky and muscular "Paul Bunyan" of steel ribbons and wood ties.

In Spartanburg there's another veteran negro railroad man—not as muscular and mighty as was John, but nevertheless widely known for several decades among railroaders, black and white, in this section.

Bears A Good Name

He is Bill Austin and he fired and flagged for three lines before retirement at 65 withdrew him from service.

He bears a good name, especially among the white folks, does this smiling railroader—being widely known as honest, religious and hard-working.

'No Cussing Man'

No "cussing man" is Bill. Legend has it that during more than 40 years of railroading, he has never uttered a profane remark. And such a record, as any good railroader will tell you, is remarkable, especially in view of some of the problems the old-timers had to put up with.

Bill was the first fireman on the old Glenn Springs railroad, running from Spartanburg to Glenn Springs where is located one of America's oldest hotels. 'Way back in the gay 90's Glenn Springs was a mecca for tourists. Thousands came there from all sections of the country to enjoy good food, southern atmosphere and hospitality and the unrivaled social life of the period.

Combination Train

The Glenn Springs railroad's major piece of rolling stock was a combination train, consisting of an engine, a coach for white people and a colored car and baggage car combined in the second coach.

Bill, he "fiahed her" for many a day. Then he shifted jobs and went with the C. C. and O.

The late Giles Templeton was engineer and the late Thomas Smith presided as conductor.

After a long stretch, Bill "resigned" and went with the C. and W. C., later switching to the Southern where he was working when retirement caught up with him a year ago.

A Pioneer Spartan Railroader

Herald-Journal Staff Photo.

Back to railroading went Bill Austin, veteran fireman and flagman, yesterday—that is, long enough for his "picture to be took." Bill, who "railroaded" the "cowcatcher" of a locomotive at the Southern station here. He was the first fireman on the old Glenn Springs railroad and later saw service on the C. & W. C., and Southern.

Good Citizen

Bill, who resides near Snyder field, in Spartanburg, bears an excellent reputation among both white and colored as a good citizen.

Quiet, modest and polite, he is a deacon in the church and is very religious.

Several well known white citizens are among his friends, a fact in which Bill takes much modest pride.

Among them is Ernest W. Miller, clerk of court. Bill "drops by" the office now and then for an unobtrusive chat.

"I've known Bill since childhood and he is a model colored citizen", Mr. Miller said yesterday. "He is a good example to his race and I wish there were more like him.'

Which, after all, is a "mighty fine" reputation for a man to bear be he black or white.

Greenville, S. C. Piedmont
July 26, 1940

Anderson Negro Center To Open

ANDERSON, July 26.—Anderson county's third federal sponsored cotton mattress-making project will be opened today in the Shriley Store section, it was learned yesterday.

The center is for the benefit of low income negro tenants of the county who will assist in making their mattresses from cotton and ticking provided by the government and supervised by county extension workers.

Two other centers are already in opeeration—at Starr and near Pendleton. About 200 mattresses have been made to date, it was understood.

Greenville, S. C. News
October 2, 1940

Negro Festival Ball Is Slated

Textile Hall Dance Monday For Benefit Of Phillis Wheatley

As a sort of postscript to the National Cotton festival, Phillis Wheatley center is sponsoring a colored festival ball in Textile hall Monday night at 8 o'clock.

Posters being distributed here yesterday proclaimed in big type, "Colored Cotton Festival Ball, Dancing Under the Beautiful Decorations of the National Cotton Festival, Parade of Cotton Dresses and Floor Show."

Music, the poster said, would be "by far the sweetest, by everybody's favorite, your old collegian of swing, Harold June, of Columbia."

Anderson S. C., Mail
November 2, 1940

Employment Found For 526 Persons In October

State Agency Has Busiest Month
Many Sent To Cotton Fields

A total of 526 persons were given employment here during the month of October according to the report of the Anderson office of the State Employment Service, the highest record in the history of the local office.

Many of these persons were employed as cotton pickers during the period when the farmers in the county were badly in need of assistance to get the cotton out of the fields. The majority of the farmers transported workers to and from the fields, and a member of the Employment Service was present every morning at 6 o'clock to check workers at the time of departure and again in the evening when they returned, Mrs. Aureola Mitchell, manager, stated.

Employees have been furnished the stores and the mills of the community. Business is good this fall, and all of the mills are running full time, some of them on a three-shift basis.

Carpenters and laborers for the Anderson Fair have been furnished through the local Employment office. Labor was furnished today for the decoration of the streets of the city with pennants and banners in preparation for Fair Week.

Calls are received constantly for white housekeepers and domestic "help." The request for Negro servants continues.

At present there are no public projects to which laborers may be assigned. Projects begun early this fall have been completed.

Mrs. Mitchell described the past month as the busiest in the history of the local office.

ment on January 31, with the coming into effect of the new Federal age limit of 70 years for postmasters.

Mr. Dayson was teaching school in Berkley County school system when he was named postmaster in 1888. He served until 1890, resigning to teach school again.

Was Re-appointed

He received another commission from John Wanamaker, postmaster general, in 1892. During 1896, he audited books for a large corporation but returned in 1897 being reappointed by James A. Gary.

Mr. Dayson was commissioned one term after another with former President Herbert Hoover giving him his last commission.

To Settle on Farm

The postmaster was often commended for his efficient work. His office grew from 1000 patrons in 1888 to 8000 in 1940.

After retirement, Mr. Dayson will settle down on his farm which is about ten miles from Charleston.

Bellboy Finds, Checks Bag Holding Diamonds

COLUMBIA, S. C., June 14.—(AP)—A jewelry salesman walked off and left his bag in the lobby of a hotel.

Some five hours later a bellboy, not knowing to whom it belonged, placed the bag in the checkroom. Later in the day the frantic salesman came looking for it. The bag contained mounted diamonds valued at $15,000.

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Save for the manager, the entire bakery department is staffed with colored. Mrs. Gertrude Parker is head baker, ably assisted by Mrs. Curtis Beal and Will Brooks. The colored patronage in this store is almost negligible save for the cooks and butlers who buy for the wealthy families. Yet this store, catering to the best families in Greenville, has half its personnel of Negroes.

LITTLE NEGRO TRADE BUT HALF EMPLOYES COLORED

GREENVILLE, S. C.—(ANP)—South Carolina's finest and most complete food store, the Basketeria employs 20 people. Half are colored. Marion Curleton is a full-fledged clerk and numbers among his regular customers some of the best white families in the city.

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To Workers Insured Under Job Ins. Law

Check YES or NO at the end of each of te first three questions be ow and mail to: E. C. Lewis, Unemployment Compensation Commission, 1003 Main Street, Colum a, S. C. In answering the fourth question give the name of the newspaper from which you clipped this questionnaire.

Question No. 1 ----

Would you like to have in your posession a work record, showing the wages you earn each week, so that if and when you are laid off your job for lack of work, you can immediately tell from your work record what weekly job in-

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Postmaster Retires; Had Served 48 Years

JOHNS ISLAND, S.C.— Adam C. Dayson, 73, was busy last week making ready for his retirement on January 31, with the coming into effect of the new Federal age limit of 70 years for postmasters.

Mr. Dayson was teaching school in Berkley County school system when he was named postmaster in 1888. He served until 1890, resigning to teach school again.

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LITTLE NEGRO TRADE, BUT HALF OF EMPLOYEES COLORED

GREENVILLE, S.C., Feb. 15 (ANP)—South Carolina's finest and most complete food store, the Basketeria, employs twenty people. Half are colored. Marion Cureton is a full-fledged clerk and numbers among his regular customers some of the best white families in the city.

Save for the manager, the entire bakery department is staffed with colored. Mrs. Gertrude Parker is head baker, ably assisted by Mrs. Curtis Beal and Will Brooks. The colored patronage in this store is almost negligible save for the cooks and butlers who buy for the wealthy families. Yet this store, catering to the best families in Greenville, has half its personnel of Negroes.

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Question No. 1

Would you like to have in your posession a work record, showing the wages you earn each week, so that if and when you are laid off your job for lack of work, you can immediately tell from your work record what weekly job insurance benefits you may receive and for how many weeks?
YES ( ) NO ( )

Question No. 2

Would you like to have the law amended to a one week waiting period, instead of the now more than three weeks waiting period?
YES ( ) NO ( )

Question No. 3

Had you rather receive your check at the employment office each week when you report, as opposed to the present system under which checks are mailed from the central office at Columbia, South Carolina?
YES ( ) NO ( )

Question No. 4

From what newspaper did you clip this questionnaire?

_____
(Name of Paper)

_____
(Your Name)

_____
(Your Address)

South Carolina Business Men Oppose State Wage-Hour Bill

Same Interests Which Fought National Law, Now Unite to Kill State Plan—Friends of Measure Say Business, Industry Have Not Suffered from Effects of Act.

COLUMBIA, S. C., May 23—(ANP)—A bill now before the South Carolina legislature to regulate hours and pay for all workers not included in the national wage and hour act, would reap untold benefits for thousands of the State's colored workers, it was pointed out here this week. The proposed bill would fix a 30 cents an hour minimum wage and a 40-hour week for all South Carolina workers except domestics and agricultural groups.

The bill is being sponsored by the politically powerful S. C. League for Progressive Democracy and labor organizations. There is a strong possibility of its passage. The principal opposition is coming from employers of Negroes, but the CIO and other labor groups are offering to the sub-committee unrefuted proof of the pitifully small wage paid both white and Negro workers in some industries.

STARVATION WAGES KEEP STATE POOR

In reply to C. N. Hastie one of the opponents of the bill who said that the State is too poor for such an "experiment," L. E. Brookshire of Greenville, chairman of the S. C. League for Progressive Democracy, said that the best way to keep the State poor is by paying starvation wages to its people.

H. E. McConnell, another young aggressive labor leader, called attention to the fact that the cotton mill owners who fought the national wage and hour act as being their death warrant, are now operating under the act without a single plant closing for that reason. McConnell also said that the wages and hours of waitresses is "most damnable."

Anderson, S. C., Independent Trib.
October 2, 1940

IN CCC CAMPS

A total of seventy-five white and five Negro boys were enrolled at Clemson for service in the CCC camps, Miss Lillie Beard director of the local Department of Public Welfare who accompanied the group to Clemson, announced yesterday. The enrollment represented one of the largest allowed the Anderson branch in some time, it was stated.

Charleston, S. C. News & Courier
June 22, 1940

NEW CCC RULINGS DISCUSSED IN S. C.

Public Welfare Directors from Every County Get Official Explanation

Columbia, June 21.—(AP): Public welfare directors from every county in the state discussed here today the recently-liberalized regulations governing eligibilty for enrolment of youths in the Civilian Conservation corps.

They expressed the view that they would find little difficulty in obtaining the state's unusually large quota of 1,568 white boys and 263 negroes, particularly since about 800 will be allowed to go to Pacific coast camps.

H. Ellison Cone, state supervisor of CCC selection, explained that "chief among the changes in eligibility requirements is the provision that young men between the ages of seventeen and twenty-four who are unemployed and in need of employment may be enrolled in CCC camps even though they may not have dependents who are in need of the cash allotment of $22 per month," as now those enrollees may have the sum banked and paid to them when they leave the camps.

This change, Cone said, made a large number of boys eligible for enrolment.

He emphasized that no military training would be given "under present or pending legislation".

Charleston, S. C. Evening Post
October 2, 1940

MANY ENROLLED FOR CCC WORK

More Than 1,100 South Carolinians Taken Into Service in One Day

A total of 982 white youths and about 158 colored from various sections in South Carolina were enrolled Tuesday in the Civilian Conservation Corps through District "I" headquarters at Fort Moultrie.

The enrollment was made in a single day. October 1, says Capt. George B. Buell, Jr., adjutant. Heretofore the procurement period has been of 20 days duration. The total quota for South Carolina, however, was not reached, missing it by only 79 men. A supplemental enrollment will be held on October 3 and 4.

All enrollees are recommended by the South Carolina Welfare department. On enrollment days they are given a physical examination and if found fit, thehy are accepted.

At the Jacksonboro camp men were enrolled from Charleston, Colleton, Jasper and Dorchester counties. Of these 70 white were sent to the Hunting Island camp and 20 colored to the CCC camp at Modoc.

The 158 colored youths were enrolled in Spartanburg, Sumter and Ninety-Six.

Captain Buell said that 52 white and 13 colored veterans will be enrolled on October 10.

Seventy-three enrollees now seeing duty in the Ninth Corps area (California) are to be re-assigned.

The enrollment period is of six months. Enrollees have the privilege to enroll for another six months at the expiration of the first period. No enrollee, however, can serve over two years.

York, S. C., Yorkville Enquirer
October 3, 1940

25 YORK YOUTHS SIGNED UP AS CCC RECRUITS

Twenty-three white county youths and two colored boys were sent to Civilian Conservation Corps camps on Tuesday, Guy Smith, head of the county welfare office, said today.

The white youths will be stationed at the Kings Mountain camp, while the colored enrollees were taken to a CCC camp near Due West.

The next CCC enrollment will be in January.

The following white boys were enrolled Tuesday:

Grady Anderson of Sharon, route 1, Joseph Barrett of Clover, James Bolick of Clover, Robert Miller Bolin of Clover, Robert F. Brackett of Yorkville, Charlie Byrum of Hickory Grove, Forrest Clinton of Yorkville, Ralph Clinton of Yorkville, Charles Gibson of Clover, Billy Gregory of Rock Hill, Minz Herrin of Clover and James Hines of Sharon.

Also Thomas Lockridge of Sharon, James A. Lovett of Clover, Edgar Mull of Yorkville, James MacDonald of Clover route 2, John D. Nivens of Clover, John Railey of Yorkville, Frank Sumerlin of Clover, Miles Wallace of Rock Hill, Marshall Wells of Clover, Kelly Whitesides of Yorkville and William Moses of Clover.

The two colored enrollees were George Alexander of Rock Hill and James Ratchford of York, route 3.

Columbia S. C. State
October 6, 1940

More Than 1,000 Enroll for CCC

Charleston, Oct. 5.—A total of 982 white youths and about 158 Negroes from various sections in South Carolina were enrolled Tuesday in the Civilian Conservation corps through District I, headquarters at Fort Moultrie.

The enrolment was made in a single day, October 1, says Capt. George B. Buell, Jr., adjutant. Heretofore the procurement period has been of 20 days' duration. The total quota for South Carolina, however, was not reached, missing it by only 79 men. A supplemental enrolment was held yesterday and today.

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Captain Buell said that 52 white and 13 Negro veterans would be enrolled on October 10.

Seventy-three enrollees, now seeing duty in the Ninth corps area (California) are to be reassigned.

The enrolment period is of six months. Enrollees have the privilege to enrol for another six months at the expiration of the first period. No enrollee, however, can serve over two years.

Talented Negro Employed As Window Designer by South's Largest Jewelry Company

Firm Maintains Modern Studio; Grants Full Authority to Man Who Proved He Was Qualified for Job

OCT 4 1940

KNOXVILLE, Tenn.—By S. M. Clark Jr.—(ANP)—Located on Knoxville's main thoroughfare is the luxurious Royal Jewelers' main store which is rated as the largest in the South. This concern employs Leroy Tate, a Negro as designer of windows and interior display.

A well equipped, three-room, air-conditioned studio is furnished by the firm and all business pertaining to designing and decorating is carried on through this department. Mr. Tate does the designing for the main store and two other large stores included in the chain.

His original ideas in designing have caused Royal's windows to rank tops among Gay street's beautifully decorated windows, thus drawing the attention of some of the larger chain jewelry companies in the North and East, resulting in their sending a man to Knoxville to study the Royal windows and display.

Designing was Tate's childhood ambition. During his three years at the Knoxville high school he took drawing seriously and spent a large portion of his spare time doing this work. He also received some inspiration from several of his interested instructors. This was all that his high school days offered in the way of help since there was no course in art offered at the school.

Upon graduation he went to Detroit where he planned to enter Detroit Art Academy, but inadequate funds offset this plan. A solution was soon found when an academy professor became interested and gave him three years of instruction in fine arts, sculpture composition, oil painting and life drawing.

After completing this training he painted many fine pieces and presented them at shows where interested people purchased them at small prices. He was soon broke and had almost begun to feel that there was no future for a Negro in this field. Soon he was forced to seek other means of making a living.

After being driven from the field of art, Tate took up hotel service, but he did not give up all hopes of some day getting an opportunity to advance in the art field. While employed in this line of duty, it was his good fortune to come in contact with a representative of Schnars' Chain Jewelers of New York.

Much time was spent in attempting to convince the representative that he was capable of doing the work. Finally Tate bargained to decorate two windows; one in Knoxville and one in Asheville, N. C., without cost, providing they were not satisfactory. The work was satisfactory and he was employed as the designer for Schnears' southeastern chain with a two year contract.

After a period of two years Royal jewelers bought over Schnears' four Knoxville stores. This purchase included all of the major stores in the southeastern chain, thus leaving Tate out of a job. Soon, however, he was fortunate in selling the Royal firm the same idea that he had sold the Schnears company and he was made chief designer of windows and interior display for four stores.

OCT 4 1940

A modern air conditioned studio equipped with all modern devices used in designing for the firm were turned over to him along with full authority to handle them as he saw fit. His work has been doubled since the Royal firm has cut one store and increased the size of the Gay street store making it the South's largest jewelry store.

Mr. Tate represented his firm at the National Association of Credit Jewelers of America when they met at the Hotel Sherman in Chicago and when they met at the Waldorf Astoria in New York. He was highly commended for his work at the Chicago convention.

Among the outstanding works of this young artist, outside of his regular work, is the portrait of President Roosevelt which now hangs in the cabinet room. So good was this painting of her husband that Mrs. Roosevelt sent her favorite photograph to Tate in order that a portrait might be made. Personal letters of commendation from both President and Mrs. Roosevelt were received.

Besides being a commercial designer, Tate is the official designer for the emblem of the Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity and is also a teacher of art in the Knoxville evening schools.

MOTION TO DISMISS SUIT OF FIREMEN IS LOST BY RAILROADS

NOV 2 1940

JACKSON, Tenn., Oct. 31—Motion to dismiss an amended complaint naming the G. M. & N. and G. M. & O. railroads as parties defendant to a suit filed on behalf of Edward Teague of Louisville, Miss., colored fireman, against the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen, has been denied here by Federal Judge John Dfi Martin.

The suit brought by Teague alleges that the Brotherhood, selected as a bargaining agency for an entire group of workers, has discriminated against colored firemen, and seeks recovery of damages for the alleged discrimination, as well as an injunction to prevent such discrimination in future.

It was contended by the railroads that they were not proper parties to the suit, as their agreement with the Brotherhood was a compromise agreement only; also that the Brotherhood alone was responsible for its discriminatory action under that agreement.

Talented Negro Is Employed By South's Largest Jewelry Concern As Designer Of Windows And Interior Display

The Plaindealer
Kansas City, Kansas

OCT 4 1940

Firm Maintains Modern Studio; Grants Full Authority to Man Who Proved He Was Qualified for the Job

KNOXVILLE, Tenn., Oct. 4 (By S. M. Clark Jr., for ANP) — Located on Knoxville's main thoroughfare is the luxurious Royal Jewelers' main store which is rated as the largest in the South. This concern employs Leroy Tate, a Negro as designer of windows and interior display. A well equipped, three room, air-conditioned studio is furnished by the firm and all business pertaining to designing and decorating is carried on through this department. Mr. Tate does the designing for the main store and two other large stores included in the chain. His original ideas in designing have caused Royal's windows to rank tops among Gay street's beautifully decorated windows, thus drawing the attention of some of the larger chain jewelry companys in the North and East, resulting in their sending a man to Knoxville to study the Royal windows and display.

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The Plaindealer

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Kansas City

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Knoxville Tenn. News Sentinel
March 5, 1940

1,692,000 Jobs Would Just Put South on 1930 Basis, Human Resources Expert Says

Top Authority Paints Picture Anything but Rosy.

Here's an ad for the Southeast —"Wanted 653,000 more jobs for women; 1,039,000 more jobs for men."

Answered in full that would not mean that the section was soaring to new heights of employment.

It would mean that this region was returning to the 1930 ratio of employment, according to Dr. Rupert Vance of the University of North Carolina.

Here as chief speaker at the annual banquet of the Tennessee Conference of Social Work, Dr. Vance is ranked as one of the South's top authorities on human resources.

Dr. Rupert Vance (left) of the University of North Carolina, chief speaker at annual banquet of the Tennessee Conference of Social Work, and Dr. Wayland J. Hayes, of Vanderbilt University, discuss the South's unemployment problem.

Picture Isn't Rosy

The picture he paints is far from rosy.

With the wry observation that people probably would have been run out of the country if they had called the South "the Nation's No. 1 Economic Problem" 10 years ago he said that measured by the yardstick of unemployment the Southeast merits that rating.

The big parade of secondary workers—women and youths—increasing since the depression has boosted unemployment totals.

Jobs for primary workers would reduce this classification, but Dr. Vance said he did not favor artificial means of reducing unemployment figures either through limiting the number of workers in a family of a certain income bracket, or denying married women the right to work.

"That is entirely against our whole view of life," he said.

Farming Not Solution

He sees no golden solution of the South's problem in farm furrows.

"Agriculture is getting to be a poorhouse—subsidies to undernourished consumers to enable them to have needed food might do more to redirect agricultural production in this country than subsidies to farmers to restrict production," Dr. Vance said.

The higher birth rate of the South increases her unemployment problem.

"The people who are having the most children who in turn probably will have the most children are getting the least education," he pointed out.

Consolidation of government functions might help to release more money for education and health programs in the South. Elimination of freight rate discrimination might bring some improvement in unemployment.

A National Problem

"But we can't solve the South's problem without solving the nation's problem," Dr. Vance said.

At the same time an industrial boom might "make us forget the South's problem, dismissing the poor whites and Negroes with the thought that they'd always been poor anyway."

Encouraging in the gloomy picture is "our new consciousness of our problems."

Want More Negroes In Tenn. P. O.

CHATTANOOGA—(ANP)—Having no appointees since the entrance of the new administration into government control, Chattanooga's new million dollar postoffice is the object of centralized criticism from citizens who are making an effort to place members of the race in employment channels, long deserved and needed.

Voters of the city and county have pledged themselves to wash their hands in the August election if elected officials do not attempt to do something about the matter. The present representative to the U. S. legislature from Hamlin county, who is serving the unexpired term of a deceased candidate, has, according to information received, in looking over the eligibility list, discovered that there are at the present time few eligibles able to be placed on the appointment rolls.

The postoffice has not hired any clerks or carriers since Roosevelt took office. Since the erection of the building Negroes have not been tendered janitor jobs, and thousands of Negroes in Chattanooga are desperately in need of work. Pleas and petitions to the authorities have been to no avail, and the elections, in which Negroes in Hamlin county poll more votes than Negroes anywhere in the state, only continue to put men in office who are overlooking the matter.

The new edifice has been completed for about eight years and the hue and cry of the taxpaying citizens has been to no avail.

Robert B. Buckner, president of the Hamlin County Democratic club, in making an appeal to the Eastern Tennessee representative has informed him that the postoffice is neglecting the sad plight of people who are anxious to earn a living in some form or other.

JACKSON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ISSUES BOOK

JACKSON, Miss.—(ANP)A book, containing historical and current information about the city of Jackson, compiled by the Negro Chamber of Commerce, will be released soon in commemoration of the chamber's eighth anniversary, it was announced this week by the Rev. A. Buxton Keeling, chairman of the book project committee. A history of the city's colored churches, schools, banks, insurance companies, fraternal and civic organizations, business firms, and the chamber of commerce will be contained in the book.

Hundreds Of Labor Union Men Picket E. 9th St. Proiect

CHATTANOOGA, (Tenn.—(SNS) The paving of E. 9th Street that began Monday, May 6, 1940, which is being financed by the state and Federal government was picketed by several hundred Union men Monday, May 13, 1940.

The presence of so many labor union men with various colored placards attracted thousands of curious spectators to the scene to find out what was going on. The pickets circled the project carrying banners with such inscriptions as: "We Want Chattanooga Men For This Job," "Unfair To Organized Labor," "Is Pistol Pete Around?" and the like.

The contention of the Union, according to one of the men interviewed by the Observer's reporter is that the job is being manned by non-union laborers and that the prevailing labor's price is not being met.

The men on the job were forced to leave their work because of the intimidation by the pickets several men are alleged to have been hurt and one was seriously wounded during the fracas.

NEGRO BUSINESS PARALYZED

East 9th Street is the main Negro thoroughfare of Chattanooga where many Negro business houses are located. The presence of the thousands of pickets that paraded in front of the doors through Monday, cost Negroes plenty of money, according to a statement of a prominent E. 9th Street business man. He said, in commenting on the parade, "I have no objection to these people picketing a job, but they are destroying Negro business here. We have a hard enough time trying to hustle enough pennies to keep our doors open and the presence of this kind of stuff will put us completely out of business. I wish some law enforcement agency, the police or national guard would stop this mess. Our expense goes on whether we make a nickel or not and this show by labor union is certainly costing us plenty."

Jobs of 5 Restored by Negro Congress. Union

Afro-American 7-20-40 Baltimore, Md.

Knoxville, Tenn. News Sentinel
July 14, 1940

Underpaid, then Fired, War Dept. Workers Rehired after Conference

WASHINGTON

The National Negro Congress and the National Maritime Union claimed victory, last week, in cases involving the underpaying of five Memphis District War Department barge employees and their subsequent discharge for complaining to their Congressmen and Senators.

The five men in question, Louis H. Aldridge, Willie Metcalfe, Johnny Webster, Robert Sutton, and Leslie Artis, were declared eligible for employment in the Engineer Department and ordered restored to their former jobs with commensurate seniority, last week, by the office of the chief of engineers.

Davis Represents Men

This action was taken following hearings on the case, ordered by Major General Julian S. Schley, chief of army engineers, following demands by the congress and the union. John P. Davis, national executive secretary of the congress, represented the men at the all-day hearing conducted by Major A. T. Moore at Memphis, Tenn.

It was charged at the hearing that the men had been compelled to work overtime without additional pay; that deductions had been taken from their salaries for subsistence and quarters, even though they were not living on board the barges;

That no information was obtainable concerning their civil service efficiency ratings, and that they had been discharged for alleged misstatement of their working conditions to their Congressmen.

Chief Issues Orders

Following the hearings the following orders were issued by the chief of engineers:

1. The five discharged men are to be returned to their jobs.
2. Union meetings may be held on the dredges.
3. Deductions will not be made for "subsistence and quarters" when men are absent from the dredges.
4. Efficiency ratings will be given the men every year, thus rendering arbitrary dismissals impossible.

Choosy Job Seeker Is Ruled No Vagrant

A charge of vagrancy was a negro WPA worker's reward for refusing a job Tuesday, but Judge Bateman dismissed the case in City Court yesterday on the basis that a man who seeks a job to which he is suited is not a vagrant.

Albert George, 40, of 237 Mulberry, wainted in nine 15 minutes to get a WPA assignment, according to officers, and then asked Aubrey Clapp, who was in charge, what kind of a job he had.

Mr. Clapp replied he had a "hoe handle" — cotton chopping — job, whereupon the negro said:

"I don't want no country job—I want a city job."

Judge Bateman, in dismissng the charge, pointed out that George was at least seeking work, even if it was a job which did not meet with his particular taste.

APPLIANCE SALE /WITH 'POLITICS'

In political campaign style the retail electric appliance business here is drumming up business in major appliances.

Co-operating is the City Utilities Board, and the Board has hired itself a Negro band (above) to ride through the streets to play campaign tunes.

Electric appliance dealers here are continuing the "political campaign" through the coming week.

Negro Employed By South's Largest Jewelry Concern

Grants Full Authority To Man Who Proved He Was Qualified For Job

By S. M. CLARK Jr.

KNOXVILLE, Tenn.—(ANP)—Located on Knoxville's main thoroughfare is the luxurious Royal Jewelers' main store which is rated as the largest in the South. This concern employs Leroy Tate, a Negro, a designer of windows and interior display. A well equipped three-room, air conditioned studio is furnished by the firm and all business pertaining to designing and decorating is carried on through this department. Mr. Tate does the designing for the main store and two other large stores included in the chain. His original ideas in designing have caused Royal's windows to rank tops among Gay street's beautifully decorated windows, thus drawing the attention of some of the larger chain jewelry companies in the North and East, resulting in their sending a man to Knoxville to study the Royal windows and display.

Designing was Tate' childhood ambition. During his three years at the Knoxville high school he took drawing seriously and spent a large portion of his spare time doing this work. He also received some inspiration from several of his interested instructors. This was all that his high school days offered in the way of help since there was no course in art offered at the school.

Upon graduation he went to Detroit where he planned to enter Detroit Art Academy, but inadequate funds offset this plan. A solution was soon found when an academy professor became interested and gave him three years of instruction in fine arts, sculpture composition, oil painting and life drawing.

After completing this training he painted many fine pieces and presented them at shows where interested people purchased them at small prices. He was soon broke and had almost begun to feel that there was no future for a Negro in this field. Soon he was forced to seek other means of making a living.

After being driven from the field of art, Tate took up hotel service, but he did not give up all hopes of some day getting an opportunity to advance in the art field. While employed in this line of duty, it was his good fortune to come in contact with a representative of Schnears Chain Jewelers of New York. Much time was spent in attempting to convince the representative that he was capable of doing the work. Finally Tate bargained to decorate two windows; one in Knoxville and one in Asheville, N. C., without cost, provided they were not satisfactory. The work was satisfactory and he was employed as the designer for Schnears' southeastern chain with a two-year contract.

OCT 5 1940

After a period of two years Royal jewelers bought over Schnears' four Knoxville stores. This purchase included all of the major stores in the southeastern chain, thus leaving Tate out of a job. Soon, however, he was fortunate in selling the Royal firm the same idea that he had sold the Schnears company and he was made chief designer of windows and interior display for four stores. A modern air conditioned studio equipped with all modern devices used in designing for the firm were turned over to him along with full authority to handle them as he saw fit. His work has been doubled since the Royal firm has cut one store and increased the size of the Gay street store making it the South's largest jewelry store.

Mr. Tate represented his firm at the National Association of Credit Jewelers of America when they met at the Hotel Sherman in Chicago, and when they met at the Waldorf Astoria in New York. He was highly commended for his work at the Chicago convention.

Among the outstanding works of this young artist, outside of his regular works, is the portrait of President Roosevelt which now hangs in the cabinet room. So good was this painting of her husband that Mrs. Roosevelt sent her favorite photograph to Tate in order that a portrait might be made. Personal letters of commendation from both President and Mrs. Roosevelt were received.

Besides being a commercial designer, Tate is the official designer for the emblem of the Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity and is also a teacher of art in the Knoxville evening schools.

Swankiest Jewelry Store Has Ace Negro Designer

OCT 31 1940

By S. M. CLARK, Jr.

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After being driven from the field of art, Tate took up hotel service, but he did not give up all hopes of some day getting an opportunity to advance in this field of his first love.

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SELLS NEW OWNERS IDEA

After a period of two years, Roya the emblem of the Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity and is also a teacher of art in the Knoxville evening schools

WELL KNOWN COLORED NASHVILLIAN IS COFFEE BLENDER AT H. G. HILL'S

Globe Independent
Nashville, Tennessee

William Jarrett Has Served His Employer with Rare Skill for Twenty-five Years

DEC 20 1940

Among Negroes holding responsible positions with leading Nashville business firms and whose work is of as high class as could be desired, is William Jarrett, expert coffee blender, employed by the great H. G. Hill company in its big plant at 500 Second Avenue, North.

William Jarrett has been with the Hill Company for a period of twenty-five years, having worked for nine years as a helper under Wm. Lowe, succeeding later to the job of head man, which he has held for sixteen years.

A representative of the Nashville Globe visited the coffee roasting department of the H. G. Hill Company last week and was quite fascinated with the way Jarrett goes about blending and roasting the millions of pounds of coffee the company distributes to the public through its many stores. The latest addition to the coffee department is a giant roaster which is served by gas, but in such a scientific manner that none of the gas fumes can possibly reach the coffee. This new roaster is the very latest thing for preparing delectable coffee, Jarrett explained. He is a master in operating it.

The big, daily output of Jarrett's fascinating machine are Hill's two nationally-famous brands of coffee —"Fit-For-A-King" and "Royal Blend." These coffees are imported by the Hill company direct from the great coffee producing countries of Guatemala, Venezuela, Columbia, Mexico, Belgium Congo, and Brazil and are carefully selected to maintain uniformity and flavor in these blends. A gerat host of Jarrett's friends drink these coffees, not only because they are as good as money can buy, but also because they know and admire the man who blends and roasts them.

Jarrett, the famed coffee blender, lives at 1720 Cockrell Street. He is a member of Clark Memorial Methodist church, a member of the Knights of Pythias Lodge, in which he was once active in the uniform rank and also he is a 32nd degree Mason.

Clarkesville, Tenn., Leaf Chronicle
January 5, 1940

16 Negro Boys Pass CCC Exams

All sixteen of the colored boys examined for entry into CCC camps Thursday afternoon, passed without a single rejection, Morris Bocock, of the local welfare office, reported today. Seven of the group were from Montgomery County. They included Walter Henry Stewart, James Conwell Brewer, Leo Johnson, John Thomas Frazier, Lawrence Elliott, George Christian and Jesse T. Allen.

Ninety-five white youths and three World War veterans were examined Thursday morning.

Chattanooga, Tenn., Daily Times
January 7, 1940

BEAUTY SHOP INSPECTOR TO MEET NEGRO OWNERS

A meeting of all-Negro beauty culture operators has been called for tomorrow at 8 p.m. at the colored Pythian temple, 425½ East Ninth street, by Eva Cardell, colored state inspector of Negro beauty shops.

She will explain the state law requiring beauty shop owners and operators to have "back and front entrances and hot and cold water running in basins, as well as other sanitary requirements of the state."

She will remain here for approximately three weeks and conduct a survey for the Tennessee state department of cosmetology

Interested persons may reach her at the residence of Dr. L. L. Patton, 805 Magnolia street, where she is making headquarters.

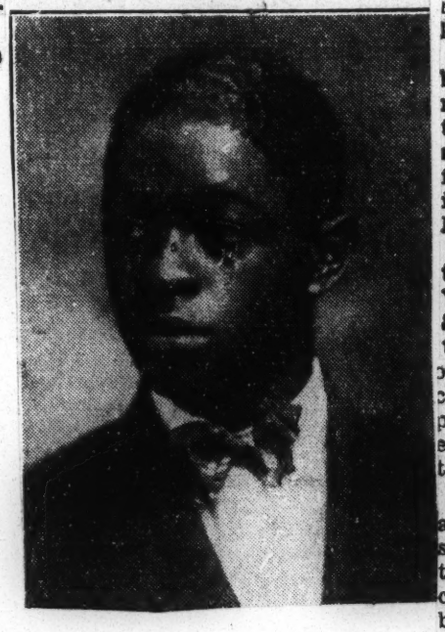
manufacturers which insures a better fit, together with salesman trained in the knowledge of fect. If you have rouble getting the right shoe, come in and see Dan. Butler.

We might add that Mr. Butler stands at the head of the list of all the Negro salesmen employed by Florsheim. He is a member of Phi Bea Sigma Fraternity, the Negro Board of Trade and Payne Chapel A. M. E. church.

Again we extend you an invitation to the Florsheim Shoe Shop, 517 Church St.

The Floreshem Shoe Co.

A-1 Salesman



Dan Butler has been employed by the Florsheim Shoe Co., for the past eight years as salesman and has made an enviable record for himself.

The Florsheim Shoe Co., together with Mr. Butler, wishes o take this opportunity to thank his patrons of the Nashville store, which has grown yearly for the past eight years. We feel ha Mr. Butler is just as capable and efficient as any salesman we have and hope that each season the number of his customers will continue to increase because the purchase of his customers has made his job possible.

Florsheim is able to offer more styles, lasts and features than other

Chattanooga, Tenn., Daily Times
February 9, 1940

224 Negroes Got Jobs in January Through Employment Service Here

Two hundred and twenty-four Negroes were given jobs through the Tennessee state employment service during January, according to Henry S. Bloker, district manager of the East Ninth street office.

Maids, cooks and domestic furnished the majority of the placements, but openings were also found for "restaurant workers, bicycle delivery boys, laundry workers and yardmen."

The principal difficulty experienced by the service is to find "qualified maids and cooks who can reside on the place," Mr. Bloker stated and added "there is also a big demand for colored hotel workers, dry cleaning and laundry workers who have had experience."

Bloker appealed to adults to attend the classes conducted by the WPA, Y. W. C. A. and Y. M. C. A., South Chattanooga Community center, Newton Community center and other clubs and organizations for the colored group that are trying to improve the vocational status of workers to enable them to hold jobs when they get them."

Questioned about relieving the servant situation in the future, Bloker asserted that "our experience has been that most of the acults, female especially, who are seeking work have been forced for economic reasons, or otherwise, to quit school before they finish the sixth grade in school. They have had no technical training in domestic science and the type of service that fits them for making a living these days. I believe it would greatly alleviate the situation if young Negroes down in the elementary grades were taught the fundamentals of domestic arts and service. They at least would be better fitted to catch on in later life in performing their work."

The local office was called on early this week by the state employment office in Birmingham, to furnish them with a colored stenographer and bookkeeper. Other such requests come in from time to time, Bloker said.

Memphis, Tenn., Com'rcial Appeal
February 1, 1940

NEGRO SHELBY FOREST NEARING COMPLETION

Recreation Area To Be Ready By Summer

The 500-acre Shelby County Forest for Negroes, at the Mississippi River end of Mitchell Avenue, will be ready for use early this Summer, Charles C. Stewart, project superintendent, said yesterday.

Improvements will be incomplete, but the park will be usable, he said. It has been entirely fenced with hogproof wire and the approaching road has been improved. The baseball diamond is nearly ready, with bleachers about to be built.

When the weather clears, work will start on a swimming pool, a lodge building, including a large dining hall, and the decorative entrance structures. Plans include picnic areas and two group camps.

The work is being done by 180 negro CCC boys, most of them from Shelby County.

s, Tenn., Com'rcial Appeal
July 6, 1940

ENGINEER BOAT JOBS RESTORED TO NEGROES

Army Officer Rules In Memphis Labor Case

Five negro employes of the Memphis District, United States Engineers, who charged they were fired for making complaints of working hours, have been ordered "restored to their former positions," William R. Henderson Jr., Memphis agent for the National Maritime Union, said yesterday.

Mr. Henderson received a copy of a letter written by Brig. Gen. Thomas M. Robins, assistant to the chief of Engineers, to John P. Davis, secretary of the National Negro Congress, concerning the case.

Members of C. I. O. Union

The employes affected are members of the Inland Boatmen's Division of the N. M. U., a Congress for Industrial Organization affiliate. A hearing of their charges was held here in June by Maj. A. T. W. Moore, attached to the Chief of Engineers' Office. The men involved are Louis H. Aldrige, Willie Metcalfe, Johnny Webster, Robert Sutton and Leslie Artis.

The complaints of the workers were made to members of the negro congress.

General Robins' letter further states that "when men who are receiving subsistence and quarters, are absent from two or more consecutive meals and who give due notice of their intent to be absent, under regulations to be prescribed, no deduction will be made for subsistence not furnished the employes."

Will Save Expenses

Mr. Henderson said that at present when employes are away from their dredge boats on their off days, they have been required to pay board. He added that the new regulations will save the dredge boat worker from $6 to $10 a month if he is off the boat when not working.

Chattanooga, Tenn., Daily Times
August 9, 1940

CALM PREVAILS AMONG PICKETS IN ALTON PARK

Violence Drops to Minimum as Police Patrol Section Around Crane Factory

Strike violence at the huge Crane Enamelware plant, in ascendancy since Monday, dropped to a minimum yesterday as approximately 500 non-striking Negro workers marched in a body through the plant gates during the crucial 6 a.m. hour while a squad of police officers and almost every police official in the city maintained order among the throng of strikers and pickets lining the sidewalks.

In direct contrast to the workers' entrance Wednesday morning, when a pitched battle between strikers and non-strikers resulted in injury to two men, the opening of the plant yesterday was rather peaceful, although sporadic outbreaks after the main body of Negroes had entered brought about the arrest of several men on disorderly conduct and assault and

battery charges.

It was unofficially reported last night that leaders of the molders' union, which called the strike, would meet either today or tomorrow with A. M. Nelson, vice-president and general manager of the company, and a federal labor department conciliator, who has been in the city for several days. None of those reported to be in the rumored conference was reached for confirmation.

Police Patrol Area

Showing strict impartiality in his handling of a tense situation, Chief Ray Bryan promptly at 5 a.m. ordered the strikers to clear the main entrance, allowing strike leaders, however, to post ten pickets along the two gates. Ten officers on foot deployed among the pickets; four other officers in two police cars began an up-and-down partol of Alton Park boulevard on either side of the plant, and police captains and a lieutenant took up positions in the massed group of strikers.

The Negro workers marched into the plant a few minutes after 6 a.m. Although they were not molested, the non-strikers were hooted and jeered by the strikers. Officers along the line of march held back the strikers and ordered the Negroes to drop rocks and bricks carried in their shirt bosoms. The brickbats fell to the street with regularity as the men marched past the officers.

Soon after the large group of Negroes were safely within the plant walls, about a dozen other Negroes approached from the south end of the boulevard. Trouble was narrowly averted when policemen rushed to meet them and stopped a group of strikers from interfering with their approach.

Man Arrested, Discharged

Yesterday's arrests included those of Ed Prigmore, 41, said to be a former Crane employe and one of the organizers of the union, who was jailed on charges of disorderly conduct and public profanity. He allegedly cursed in loud tones the police commissioner and the city judge. At a police court hearing several hours later, Prigmore was discharged upon his promise that he would remain away from the plant.

Henry Rummel, 31, and Cleo Sanders, 28, former taxi driver, were also arrested, along with Roy Allen, 25-year-old striker. Rummel was charged with assault and battery and the charge was later amended to shooting with intent to kill, when police developed evidence that he was involved in the shooting of two Negro non-strikers Wednesday afternoon.

Allen, also charged with shooting with intent to kill, was accused of having been present when the Negroes were shot. Sanders was charged with assault with a rock.

Cases against Allen, Sanders, Rummel and C. S. Shelton, Crane painter arrested Wednesday night for alleged participation in the Wednesday afternoon shooting, were passed by Judge Martin A. Fleming to next Tuesday morning. Bonds totaling $9,200 were posted for the accused men.

The Rev. H. F. Ziegler, St. Elmo pastor and union leader, who has been assisting the Crane strikers, was credited by police yesterday with having kept down disorder during the march of the Negroes.

The minister-union leader exhorted the strikers during the approach of the Negroes not to cause trouble and said, "Just hold what you've got. If they want to go in there, let 'em go. We don't want any trouble."

With Chief Bryan at the strike scene were Acting Chief of Detectives Roy Hyatt, Acting Captain of Detectives Glenn Holleman, Capt. Homer Edmonson, Capt. Marion Perkins, Capt. Grady Head, Capt. W. R. Carter and Lieut. Charles R. Hartness.

Two Non-Union Men Beaten

Two non-union drivers employed by the struck Rutherford Freight lines were attacked and beaten by six unidentified men in a Wilson Trucking company garage, Sixteenth and South Broad streets, yesterday afternoon at 1:15 o'clock. The attackers, several armed with clubs, smashed the windshield on a Rutherford truck.

Erlanger hospital attaches listed the injured truck drivers as Jim Ragon, of 906 East Fourteenth street, and Joe Coulter, of 210½ West Forty-fifth street. Coulter, taken to the hospital in a Wann-Chapman ambulance, was treated for arm injuries and body bruises. Ragon was slightly bruised, the hospital reported.

Police learned after an investigation that the unidentified band of men "rushed" the Wilson garage while the Rutherford men were temporarily there loading freight from a platform into their truck. The main office of the Rutherford company was moved recently from Central avenue to Hooker road, in Rossville, Ga.

Metal Arts Company Employs Seven Negro Salesmen

By LEWIS O. SWINGLER

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — (ANP)—Until recently the existence of a vast commercial market predominantly Negroid in its racial aspect had not been recognized by white business institutions. Negroes themselves were not altogether cognizant of the strength they represented in terms of dollars and cents. Here in America were more than 12,000,000 people whose lives, while inextricably woven with the general business conditions of the country, were separate and apart because of the peculiar practices these people have developed methods of self-sufficiency, creating a distinctive commercial field within the general industrial life of the nation.

The growing commercial mindedness of the Negro is beginning to manifest itself in many respects; especially during this period of economis trails. Roung men and women in college are making studies of correct business procedures. Today they are beginning to learn methods by which doors of work opportunities heretofore closed to them are pened. A fine example of this fact is the story behind the employment of a Negro saesforceby Metal Arts Company, Rochester. New York, manufacturers of jewelries.

Nearly four years ago. Aaron L. Allen, while a student at Fisk university, Nashville. made a study of companies engaged in manufacture and sale of class rings, pins, keys, invitations, souvenirs, etc., to Negro schools and Greek letter socities. At that time not a single one of these companies employed Negroes in the capacity of salesmen ,although doing a large business with these institutions and organizations. Mr. Allen. in his study, revealed that from $15,000 to $30,000 in sales were being made to Greek-letter organizations alone. These facts, coupled with his knowledge of salesmanship, led him to write several manufacturers of jewelries. This was the beginning of a "New Frontier of Employment" for trained. young Negro men.

Quoting from a signed article by Mr. Allen in the February, 1939 edition of "The National Educational Outlook," he said, in part:

"Out of more than 30 or 40 replies, all of which took the stand that they had a well trained staff of college trained salesmen and, even though they did a lot of Negro business, they did not see a necessity of changing their present force just to give a Negro a job. Some of the answers were. if you are able to finance yourself in traveling from town to town, soliciting business, we will be willing to supply our customers. This was just another nice way of saying that Negro employment was not wanted for one can well understand what it would mean to finance such a business."

Mr. Allen did not become disheartened. Determined in spirit, he continued to make contact with these companies; the same firm in many instances. Metal Arts Company, sizing up the situation as explained by Mr. Allen, decided to give it a trial. No "strings were attached" to the proposition. The young Fiskite was given the full status of salesman with financial backing to work in the territory he himself had designated as a starting point. It was up to him to make good—to blaze the trail for others. Failure, perhaps, would have muffed another opportunity of this kind for years to come. But Mr. Allen did not fail.

Today,Metal Arts company, within a period of three years, has employed seven full-time Negro salemen, and three part-time representatives. The entire force consists of a director of sales who is Mr. Allen. Mr. Allen is a representative of Tennessee, Kentucky, and Mississippi; other salesmen represent some of the leading colleges of the country. Lonnie F. Briscoe, Le Moyne College, travels in Texas and Louisiana; W. O. Yarbrough, graduate of Fisk, is a North Carolina representative; C.L. Blackwell, Hampton Institute, former dean of Wayne Institute, travels in Virginia and West Virginia, District of Columbia and Maryland; A. Spain, A. B., Fisk. M. A. University of Michigan, representative of Oklahoma, Arkansas and Missouri.

REDCAPS WINS $88,500 IN COURT BATTLE FOR BACK PAY UNDER WAGE-HOUR LAW

DALLAS. — A court battle which labor leaders claim resulted in "the awarding of $88,500 in a suit against the Union Terminal company.

Federal Judge William H. Atwell, in a decision that may better the condition of redcaps throughout the nation, held that tips are not deductible under the Wage-Hour law. Each of the 41 redcaps was awarded $1,000 plus an equal amount provided under the law for liquidating damages.

The Federal Judge said in his opinion that "It is beside he question to talk about there being 50 men to take the place if one of the redcaps were let out. It is beside the question to mention color. I would be a very poor judge to talk about the wisdom of legislation. If these laws will result in men who have been making a fair living in their wages losing their positions, it is not the business of the court."

He added that the public may withdraw tips when it is learned that the company is paying the redcaps wages. "Tips are not meant to be wages," Judge Atwell said. "If Congress, familiar as it is with tipping, meant for tips to be included in wages, the law would have so provided."

A. J. Pickett, representing the Brotherhood of Railway and Steamship clerks, said the union brought suit in behalf of workers independent of the Wage-Hour enforcement division of the government and that the union had felt that the same interpretation of the law applies to railway and steamship clerks.

Attorneys for the redcaps say that nationwide attention has been directed to the Dallas sui and that thousands of workers having similar quesions watched the outcome of the case.

Stipulations were taken in the lawsuit Monday when the case opened. The terminal company admitted that redcaps worked only for tips before passage of the wage-hour law and that following the passage, men have under protest reported tips with the company, adding enough to tips to make the 30 cents per hour required by law. The case is said to be the first of its kind ever tried in court.

Federal Judge Rules Union Terminal Must Pay Red Caps

By LAWRENCE BROCKENBURY

DALLAS, (SNS)—A suit involving a total of more than $86,000 was won last week by the Dallas Red Caps, employees of the Union Terminal Company, through their representative, A. J. Pickett, of St. Louis. The suit was for more than $43,000 in back wages; plus damages for an equal sum; and for attorney's fees.

Judge Wm. H. Atwell, United States District Court, Northern District of Texas, Dallas Division, ruled that the plaintiff must recover; that the penalty must be paid; and set the attorneys' fees at $500 to be paid by the defendant company. Mr. Pickett is general chairman of the Brotherhood of Railway and Steamship Clerks, Freight Handlers, Express and Station Employees, the organization of which the red caps are members.

TIPS NOT WAGES

Judge Atwell ruled that tips are not meant to be wages under the Fair Labor Standards Act and can not be considered in complying with provisions of the wage and hour law.

In its petition the plaintiff alleged that the red caps are engaged in interstate commerce and thereby come under the Fair Labor Standards Act; that under the act defendant was required to pay each of the employees at the rate of not

Holds That Tips Are Not Meant To Be Wages

ess than 25 cents per hour from October 24, 1938 to October 23 939; and not less than 30 cents per hour from and after October 24, 1939; that notwithstanding requirements of the act, the defendant failed and refused to pay the employees or any of them the sum of 25 cents per hour from October 24, 1938, to October 23, 1939, and the sum of 30 cents per hour from October 24, 1939, up to the present; and has paid them no wages as such since October 24, 1939.

Attorneys for the plaintiff asked that each of the employees be awarded back salary amounting to $1,051.60, the 40 employees' back salaries constituting a total of $43,215.60.

DEFENSE FIGHTS BACK

Counsel for the plaintiff pointed out that the red caps are engaged in interstate commerce by virtue of their carrying their bags to and from the trains for passengers going out of the state and coming into the state.

Defense attorneys said that while the trains themselves and the Union Terminal Company were engaged in interstate commerce, the men who carry bags in the station are not engaged in interstate commerce any more than are the people who sell candy or newspapers at the station. The judge ruled that they were definitely engaged in interstate commerce.

The plaintiff also contended that the tips the red caps received were their own property, given to them by passengers as rewards for service rather than a part of the company for the particular service; and as such could not be taken over by the Union Terminal Company without proper consideration. The defense argued that the jobs given "these colored boys who could not find better positions anywhere" and for whom "we could find 50 more to replace each one" with a guarantee of at least $60 or $70 a month, constituted sufficient consideration.

JUDGE RULES

Judge Atwell held (1) that the Buckner letter constituted an offer; but inasmuch as the red caps did not agree to the terms set forth therein, there was no meeting of the minds; (2) "I can hardly believe that a Congress thoroughly familiar with the system of tipping in America should include in the Act the use of houses, etc., and leave out the word 'tips' if they intended to permit the employer to get around this minimum wage by saying that the employee had already received the tips as part of the wage. The maximum may be as much more as the employee can satisfactorily earn. I would be a very poor judge to talk about the wisdom of legislation. It is the business of law-making bodies and not the business of the courts to decide the disposition to be made of tips—it is a legislative matter and not a judicial one."

FIND TERMINAL IGNORED WAGE HOUR MEASURE

Firm To Pay Minimum Salary Scale From Oct. 24, 1938

By LAWRENCE I. BROCKENBURY

DALLAS—A suit involving a total of more than $86,000 was won last week by the Dallas red caps, employees of the Union Terminal company, through their representative, A. J. Pickett of St. Louis. The suit was for more than $43,000 in back wages plus damages for an equal sum, and for attorneys' fees.

Judge William H. Atwell, United States district court, Northern district of Texas, Dallas division, ruled that the red caps must recover, that the penalty must be paid and set the attorneys' fees at $500 to be paid by the Union Terminal company.

Mr. Pickett is general chairman of the Brotherhood of Railway and Steamship Clerks, Freight Handlers, Express and Station Employees, the organization of which the red caps are members.

The case was opened Monday, May 27, and Judge Atwell's findings were given the next morning. Attorneys for the red caps were Charles H. Hay and S. D. Flanagan of St. Louis. The company was represented by Messrs. Robertson, Leachman, Payne and Gardere of Dallas.

Judge Atwell ruled that tips are not meant to be wages under the Fair Labor Standards Act and cannot be considered in complying with provisions of the wage and hour law.

In their petition the red caps alleged that they are engaged in interstate commerce and thereby come under the Fair Labor Standards Act; that under the act the company is required to pay each of the employees at the rate of not less than 25 cents per hour from October 24, 1938 to October 23, 1939; and not less than 30 cents per hour from and after October 24, 1939.

They also argued that notwithstanding requirements of the act, the company failed and refused to pay the employees or any of them the sum of 25 cents per hour from October 24, 1938 to October 23, 1939, and the sum of 30 cents per hour from October 24, 1939 up to the present; and has paid them no wages as such since October 24, 1938.

Attorneys for the red caps asked that each of the employees be awarded back salary amounting to $1,051.60, the 40 employees' back salaries constituting a total of $43,215.60.

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The red caps also contended that the tips they received were their own property, given to them by passengers as rewards for service rather than as pay to the company for the particular service; and as such could not be taken over by the Union Terminal ompany without proper consideration.

The company argued that the jobs given "these colored boys who could not find better positions anywhere" and for whom "we could find 50 more to replace each one" with a guarantee of at least $60 or $70 a month, constituted sufficient consideration.

The history of the case is an interesting one. On October 22, 1938, two days before the Fair Labor Standards Act was to go into effect, the general manager of the Union Terminal company, Murrell L. Buckner, wrote a letter to each of the red caps at the terminal, advising them of the requirements of the Fair Labor Standards Act.

In the letter he told each red cap that beginning October 24, 1938, he might retain all the tips he collected; then at the end of the day he was to make a report on the amount of tips, the difference between the tips and the amount due for the number of hours the red caps worked to be paid by the company.

On October 24, A. J. Pickett, representing the red caps, wrote a letter to Mr. Buckner stating that the men were not agreeable to his proposition and that they should be paid by the employer as stated in the statute.

Subsequent conferences with representatives from the labor union, from the Union Terminal and from the employees themselves, failed to bring about a satisfactory arrangement, so the suit was filed in the federal court.

REGAL BEER EMPLOYS NATIONAL NEGRO SALESMAN

HOUSTON—With the appointment of John W. (Jack) Roy as national Negro representative, the American Brewing Co., makers of Regal beer, became the first brewing company in America to employ a race man to represent its product over the nation. Mr. Roy is second race man to become a national beverage representative.

The Regal Beer company was also the first brewery in the South to employ a local salesman. Mr. Roy was employed as city salesman in 1936 long before the drive by the Retail Beer Dealers Association of Houston for race salesmen which resulted in all of the breweries and distributors in the city employing race salesmen. He was later promoted from the city territory and given the entire State to work in.

As a result of Mr. Roy's ability and production, the company recognized this ability and rewarded him with his second promotion in appointing him national representative. His appointment to this responsible position is being hailed by Negroes in the South as a step in the direction of other large companies recognizing the purchasing power of the Negro and giving more employment to Negroes in sales and promotional capacities.

Already the program is spreading through the South, breweries, bakeries, beverage companies and other large firms in the principal cities are employing race salesmen. Mr. Roy is very anxious that other race men will enter this field and work to the top as he has done.

Mr. Roy is well qualified for this position given him as a result of his success in smaller capacities. He is a graduate of the University of Utah, business administration of the University of Pittsburgh, and has held some very responsible positions with some of the leading Negro insurance companies of the nation. He is married and is very devoted to his wife who will travel with him as he goes about his business over the nation.

Shorter Work Week Cuts Pay Check

While labor has won its fight for shorter hours and shorter weeks and more money per hour, they have lost their efforts in their fight to raise the wages of the workers as a whole. According to a statement issued by the 1940 Brookings Institution, weekly wages as a whole declined in four industrial divisions. These declines were in the electric light and power companies, manufacturers, railroads and mining.

The report said that the weekly earning decline throughout the period of the thirties amounted to as much as thirty per cent in some instances, the man power of employment declined so much that labor as a whole received less money than before.

What the average American worker needs now is more money to meet the family budget. It seems to us that it is better for a worker to earn $25.00 weekly for forty-eight hours of work than to gain $20.00 per week for forty hours. We know of instances where workers earned as much as $125.00 per month and are now earning $70.00 because of the hourly regulations. What this country needs and what labor should fight for most is that every man should be given a chance to earn a livelihood for himself. No worker is benefited very much when he has to divide his earnings with able-bodied members of the family who want to work and can't.

Labor will never gain its fight for higher income as long as most workers must look to the government for the source of this income. We must have factories and more factories, farms and more farms without governmental interference to the point of stagnation.

RED CAP SUIT IS APPEALED TO HIGH COURT OF TEXAS

Wage and Hour Division Files Appeal at Ft. Worth

NOV 8 1940

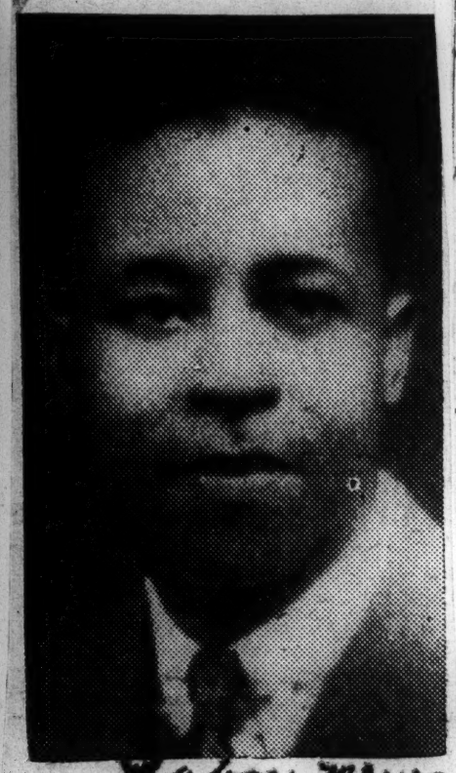
Washington, D. C. (Special)—A brief supporting the Red Caps of the Union Terminal Company, Dallas, Texas, in their legal fight to sustain a judgment of $7,253.98 in an employees suit under the Fair Labor Standards Act was filed today by the Wage and Hour Division, United States Department of Labor, with the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals, at Fort Worth, Texas.

The Division's brief, filed in conjunction with a recent motion asking permission to appear in the case as a friend of the court, declares that tips are gratuities and that "an employer cannot discharge his duty to pay the minimum wage prescribed by the Act simply by serving a notice that tips received by employees shall be applied to that end."

The brief states that the so-called guarantee system, whereby the employer pays the difference between the tips collected and the legal minimum wage under the Act, is subject to "serious abuse," saying: "The red cap can report without effective check by the Administrator or the employer the receipt of any sum whatsoever. If he feels it necessary to report the receipt of tips equal to or nearly equal to the minimum wage because of the fear that he may otherwise lose his job as an 'inefficient' employee, he can do so even though he received much less. This scheme therefore permits of easy evasion of the minimum wage provisions of the Act and the provisions requiring that true and accurate wage records be made and kept."

The Union Terminal Company has appealed from a decision by Federal District Judge William H. Atwell granting the Red Caps $38,626.99 in back wages and an equal amount of liquidated damages under Section [illegible] of the Act in the case of A. J. Pickett, vs. Union Terminal Company. Judge Atwell ruled that tips collected by the Red Caps could not be treated as wages. The appeal is scheduled to be heard at Fort Worth, Texas, November 14, 1940.

SALESMAN



C. B. DAVIS, well known and popular member of the younger social set, has been appointed special colored sales representative of the Pepsi-Cola Bottling Company.

Mr. Davis will have exclusive charge of the colored field for the company, which manufactures soft drinks. In addition to his various connections with many of the social clubs of the city, Mr. Davis is managing director of the Houston Junior Chamber of Commerce.

Learn Barbering! Be Independent!

Scientific Barbering Now a Dignified Profesion. Physical Handicapped Persons Can Get Help.

Calls come daily from many States for college-trained barbers and skin specialists, with lucrative positions in the offing. Join the prepared group and be independent for life. Our graduates practice in all States. Both men and women with a common school education can qualify. For further information, write Tyler Barber College, Tyler, Texas. H. M. Morgan, president.

RED CAPS WILL GET $88,500

Dallas Federal Judge Rules Tips are Not Deductible from Wages

By J. O. CANSLER
(Special To The Courier)

DALLAS, Texas, June 6.—Forty-one redcaps of Dallas emerged victorious last Tuesday when Federal Judge William H. Atwell awarded them a verdict for $88,500. Judge Atwell ruled that tips are not deductible from wages under the wage-hour law and returned a verdict in their favor against the Union Terminal company. Each of the forty-one men, under the ruling, will be allowed about $1,000 and an equal amount of liquidating damages provided by the law.

Facts cited in the history of the case go back two years ago when the general manager of the Union Terminal, Murrell L. Buckner wrote letters to the men advising them of the requirements of the Fair Labor Standards. The letters further stated that beginning Oct. 24, 1938, each man might retain all tips collected at the end of the day he was to make a report on the amount of tips. The difference between the tips and the amount due for the number of hours the redcap had worked was to be paid by the company. A letter was written by A. J. Pickett, representing the redcaps, to Mr. Buckner stating that the proposition was not agreeable and that the employer should pay them as stated in the statute. Subsequent conferences followed but failed to bring satisfactory arrangements and a suit was filed in the Federal court.

FINDINGS FOR PLAINTIFF

The judge, in rendering his decision, said, "I find: (1) These plaintiffs have for more than 13 years prior to Oct. 24, 1938, been working for and paid by tips received; that they have received no remuneration from their employer. I find (2) The Union Terminal company is and was the employer of these red caps, at that time and ever since. I find (3) That these red caps were engaged in interstate commerce. I find (4) That the red caps and the employer in this instance made no contract on Oct. 22, 1938, and haven't made any since; that neither the red caps nor the employer severed their connections as to the applicability of the Fair Labor Standards Act—and they continued to recognize that the question of rights of wages was an open one between them.

"My conclusion is that plaintiff must recover; that such recovery shall be the amount due each employee by the employer . . as pleaded by the plaintiff and agreed to by the defendant. I find that to that amount shall be added an equal amount . . as liquidated damages in favor of each; and I find that the fee of $500 is sufficient compensation for the plaintiff's attorneys. . . One would be drifting without excuse to attempt to read into the statute something that is not in it. It is plain; it says what shall be done and what shall not be done."

The court elaborated further by stating emphatically that "tips are not meant to be wages."

WORKERS WATCH CASE

Attorneys said the case was the first of its kind ever to be tried in court. Pickett said thousands of workers all over the country who had a similar question, were watching the outcome of the case.

Colored Man Will Build Government Houses In Texas

PRAIRIE VIEW, Tex.—(ANP)—Farm Security Administration, U. S. Department of Agriculture, advertised for construction bids at Hempstead, Texas, and the contract finally was awarded to I. J. Collier, Prairie View, on his low bid of $26,300, it was learned this week.

Project sites are located along the highway leading from Prairie View college to the main highway, about three miles along the highway leading towards Waller, and along the county road dividing the Old Menke Estate and Prairie View college property. The houses range in size from four to six rooms. In addition there will be built a large barn, paultry house, implement and storage shed, a well with a pump, hog house and pit-type toilet. Each project will contain approximately 160 acres of land. The land for these tenant homes was purchased by the Farm Security Administration and plans were prepared by the engineering division at Dallas. I. . Collier graduated from Prairie View college in 1925, came back to his Alma Mater in 1927 and served as foreman of construction until he was awarded this contract. He has constructed the $90,000 hospital here, the Industrial Engineering building, the Library, the New Anderson Hall, the Gymnasium and a number of cottages on the campus.

NEGRO GETS CONTRACT FOR U. S. HOUSES

Low Bid for Texas Projects Made by Prairie View Man

OCT 11 1940

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Appeal Brief Supporting Red Caps Filed In Texas

NOV 3 1940

FORT WORTH, Texas—(SNS)—A brief supporting the Red Caps of the Union Terminal Company, Dallas, Texas, in their legal fight to sustain a judgment of $77,253.98 in an employe's suit under the Fair Labor Standards Act was filed Saturday by the Wage and Hour Division U. S. Deport-ment of Labor, with the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeal, at Fort Worth, Texas.

Daily World

The Division's brief, filed in conjunction with a recent motion asking permission to appear in the case as a friend of the court, declares that tips are gratuities and that "an employer cannot discharge his duty to pay the minimum wage prescribed by the Act simply by serving a notice that tips received by employees shall be applied to that end."

Atlanta Ga.

The brief states that the so-called guarantee system, whereby the employer pays the difference between the tips collected and the legal minimum wage under the Act, is subject to "serious abuse," saying: "The red cap can report without effective check by the Administrator or the employer the receipt of any sum whatsoever. If he feels it necessary to report the receipt of tips equal to or nearly equal to the minimum wage be-

Legal Fight On to Obtain $77,253.98

cause of the fear that he may otherwise lose his job as an 'inefficient' employee, he can do so even though he received much less. This scheme therefore permits of easy evasion of the minimum wage provisions of the Act and the provisions requiring that true and accurate wage records be made and kept."

The Union Terminal Company has appealed from a decision by Federal District Judge William H. Atwell granting the Red Caps $38,626.99 in back pages and an equal amount of liquidated damages under Section 16 (b) of the Act in the case of A. J. Pickett, vs. Union Terminal Company. Judge Atwell ruled that tips collected by the Red Caps could not be treated as wages. The appeal is scheduled to be heard at Fort Worth, Texas, November 14, 1940.

Ft. Worth Red Cap Sustained By U. S. In Brief Filed

NOV 9 1940

FT. WORTH, Texas—A brief supporting the Red Caps of the Union Terminal Company, Dallas, in their legal fight to sustain a judgement of $77,253.98 in an employee's suit under the Fair Labor Standard Act was filed recently by the Wage and Hour Division, United States Department of Labor, with the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals here.

Negro Labor

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News

Houston

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Texas

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Negroes In Skill Labor Post At Imperial Sugar Co.

Negro Labor News

Houston, Texas

A. C. Williams, Negro Representative of Nation's Largest Sugar Refinery Speaks At Workers' Institute; Tells Part Negroes Play In Refining Imperial Sugar.

DEC 14 1940

Those in attendance at the Domestic and Industrial Workers Institute last Wednesday night, December 4, were thrilled and pleasantly surprised to learn that many Negroes at the Imperial Sugar Co. in Sugarland, Texas, the nation's largest sugar refinery were employed in skilled labor positions.

A. C. Williams, Negro representative of the Imperial Sugar Company, came from Sugarland, Texas, to tell of the part of that Negroes play in the refining of the sugar at the Imperial plant.

It was clearly brought out by Wililams that the management of the Sugarland Company was always concerned about the living conditions of their employes and that on numerous occasions they had gone far beyond expectations in seeing to it that some employe or group of employees were made more comfortable.

Williams told a graphic story of the process of refining the sugar which makes Imperial Sugar one of the world's most wholesome and outstanding products on the market. He told of the importation of the raw sugar from countries all over the world and each step in its being brought up to the point where it is ready for cooking and table purposes. The various assortments in which Imperial Sugar is marketed was also told by Williams.

It was during his discourse on the

sity of Chicago, to become acting governor of the Virgin Islands soon, in view of Gov. Lawrence W. Cramer's resignation. Cramer, a native of New Orleans and governor since 1935, announced at St. Thomas, V. I., Monday that he had resigned, Lovett became government secretary of the islands in 1939.

Previous to his resignation, Cramer and his boss, Secretary of the Interior Ickes, were not on speaking terms. Ickes had actually barred Gov. Cramer from the interior

Edgar Brown Issues Call For Negro Meeting; Program Is Outlined; To Present Bill

Pittsburgh Courier

To Eliminate Pictures From Federal Civil Service Examinations

Wants Negro Federal Judge

NOV 16 1940

WASHINGTON.—(ANP)—Declaring that the 13,000,000 Negroes in the United States must realize that there have not been and will not be any civil rights laws in the District of Columbia despite all the ravings of the campaign just closed, unless these Negroes organize everywhere and get behind such a bill and insist that this congress, now in session and the one which convenes on Jan. 1, put such a bill on the calendar, Edgar G. Brown, president of the United Government employees, has issued a ukase calling a meeting here in Washington for Nov. 15, 16 and 17.

Mr. Brown issues a program to be followed which involves the following points:

1. A civil rights law for the nation's capital.
2. Elimination of pictures from federal civil service examinations.
3. Passage of the anti-poll tax and the anti-lynch bill.
4. A $1,500 minimum wage for all federal and district employees, promotions for Negro government workers from custodial grade generally, to higher classifications in all departments and agencies.
5. Appointment of Negro officers to the 9th, 10th, 24th and 25th regiments.
6. Battleships, submarines, cruisers and destroyers manned with Negro officers and sailors.
7. Promotion of more Negroes to rank of brigadier general, major general, lieutenant general, and training for Negroes in the U. S. Army air corps.
8. Negro public relations officers in all federal government departments, a Negro secretary to the President at $10,000 a year.
9. Negro federal judges in the U. S. as well as territorial possessions.

10. Campaign fund of $10,000 to promote, develop, and prosecute national Negro unity plan and program in Washington before White House, departments, appropriations committees of congress, the house of representatives and U. S. senate. Finance to be raised and spent by Negroes themselves.

11. Appointment of a civil Negro aide to Secretary of Navy, Frank Knox as Judge Hastie serves Secretary of War Stimson and Major Campbell Johnson serves Selective Service Administrator Dykstra.

12. One dollar a year for every job-holding Negro to be contributed to the fight for freedom and equality of citizenship which cannot be begged but must be won and paid for.

13. Election to congress of courageous and honest Negro representatives and senators.

Mr. Brown's statement follows the original announcement by him last September, when he spoke over a radio hook-up in Chicago and suggested a similar plan of action.

At the time, he published an imposing list of names of prominent Negroes invited to participate in the movement, which according to Mr. Brown, will be non-political, non-sectarian in its composition and intent.

Mr. Roosevelt's Executive Order

NOV 23 1940

We have some recollection of a campaign picture in which Edgar G. Brown, president of the United Government Employees, approached the Presidential auto and urged the chief executive to do something about jim crow in the Civil Service.

Last week, the President did it. He issued an executive order barring discrimination in the filling of Federal jobs.

Afro-American

Congress had a debate about the same thing before the election. It debated a bill substituting fingerprints for photographs when candidates take examinations. The measure went to conference for amendment and still hangs fire.

Meantime, the President takes the bull by the horns and, with a stroke of his pen, puts an end to a nefarious system.

Baltimore, Md.

Because another President can come along and change the Roosevelt order, organizations will do well to press Congress to go through with supporting legislation.

We do not contend that the Presidential order is going to end all discrimination in the Federal service over-night. It won't. But it offers an important weapon with which we can continue to fight for democracy, and we cordially welcome it.

BROWN ISSUES CALL FOR NEGRO CONFAB IN D. C.

Chicago Bee

Chicago Ill.

NOV 17 1940

Outlines Program Of Action

WASHINGTON, Nov. 14—(ANP)—Declaring that the 13,000,000 Negroes in the United States must realize that there have not been and will not be any civil rights laws in the District of Columbia despite all the ravings of the campaign just closed, unless these Negroes organize everywhere and get behind such a bill and insist that this congress, now in session and the one which convenes on Jan. 1, put such a bill on the calendar, Edgar G. Brown, president of the United Government Employees, has issued a proclamation calling a meeting here in Washington for Nov. 15, 16, and 17.

Mr. Brown issues a program to be followed which involves the following points:

1. A civil rights law for the nation's capital;
2. Elimination of pictures from federal civil service examinations;
3. Passage of the anti-poll tax and the anti-lynch bill;
4. $1,000 minimum wage for all federal and district employees, promotions for Negro government workers from custodial grade generally, to higher classifications in all departments and agencies;

Negro Officer Appointments

5. Appointment of Negro officers to the 9th, 10th, 24th, 25th regiments;
6. Battleships, submarines, cruisers and destroyers manned with Negro officers and sailors;
7. Promotion of more Negroes to rank of brigadier general, major general, lieutenant general, and training for Negroes in the U. S. Army air corps;
8. Negro public relations officers in all federal government departments, a Negro secretary to the President at $10,000 a year;
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10. Campaign fund of $100,000 to promote, develop, and prosecute national Negro unity plan and program in Washington before White House, departments, appropriations committees of congress, the house of representatives, and U. S. senate. Finance to be raised and spent by Negroes themselves.

Negro Aid to Sec'y of Navy

11. Appointment of a civil Negro aide to Secretary of Navy, Frank Knox as Judge Hastie serves Secretary of War Stimson and Major Campbell Johnson serves Selective Service Administrator Dykstra.

12. One dollar a year for every job-holding Negro to be contributed to the fight for freedom and quality of citizenship which cannot be begged but must be won and paid for;

13. Election to congress of courageous and honest Negro representatives and senators.

Mr. Brown's statement follows the original announcement by him last September, when he spoke on the Chicago Bee Radio Forum program over WHIP in Chicago, and suggested a similar plan of action.

At the time, he published an imposing list of names of prominent Negroes invited to participate in the movement, which according to Mr. Brown, will be non-political, non-sectarian in its composition and intent.

Already Mr. Brown has received the information that Bishop R. R. Wright Jr., who has been active in the recent campaign and the Rev. Dr. C. T. Murray, president of the District of Columbia Baptist convention, are joining with him in issuing the call for the conference.

All sessions with the exception of the final session, which will be held at the Shiloh Baptist church, will be held in the spacious Vermont Avenue Baptist church. Governmental speakers are slated to address several meetings of the conference and delegates are sending in their credentials now to Mr. Brown.

Greensboro, N. C., News
December 11, 1940

PALMER MEMORIAL HEARS NATIONAL NEGRO ADVISER

Edgar G. Brown, Washington, director of the national negro council and advisor on negro affairs to the C. C. C., gave a talk to the Palmer Memorial institute student body yesterday at Sedalia.

After the formal talk before the whole student body he spoke informally to the senior class. He urged students to take any and all civil service examinations they could qualify for so that if the opportunity presented itself they could be assured of securing a good government position.

Tuscumbia, Ala., Reporter
November 21, 1940

NEGROES ASK NEXT PLACE ON U. S. SUPREME COURT

WASHINGTON. — The National Negro Council asked Sunday that the next Supreme Court vacancy be filled by a negro and that President Roosevelt appoint a negro as one of his six White House secretaries.

The proposals were made in a resolution adopted at a convention of the council. The convention was called by the United Government Employes, Inc., leaders of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, and the National Baptist Convention, Inc.

Edgar G. Brown's Parley For Making Race Separation Costly To U. S. Government

Philadelphia Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.
NOV 21 1940

(Special to Tribune)

WASHINGTON, D. C.—"It is obvious that with industrial opportunities curtailed and with agricultural advantages hampered by technology, a real problem confronts the entire nation," declared Vergil D. Reed, assistant director of the Bureau of the Census, at the two-day conference of the National Negro Council and the United Government Employees, here, on Saturday and Sunday.

Over 1,500 persons attended the meetings and unanimously endorsed a proposed program for the recognition of the colored race in the United States setup of national defense, industrial and educational fields.

Census Important to Negro

"The Bureau of Agricultural Economics, after a study of the census, expresses the opinion that in the southern states alone the use of tractors may ultimately displace 300,000 farm families and before 1950 it is likely that mechanization will force from 350,000 to 500,000 workers from the farms, in-cluding white as well as colored," Reed revealed.

Favor Aiding England

The Council unanimously indorsed all aid to England, including money, ships and planes, everything short of the exclusion by the Federal government of the Negro American's right and constitutional opportunity in our democracy to work, fight and live.

The convention made plans to launch a $100,000 campaign of goodwill and created a 10-point plan for unity and acclaimed President Roosevelt as "the chosen leader of the American people for the next four years and the proven friend of the common man regardless of race, creed or color."

Demand of FDR

The 10-point plan demanded of the President and Congress in the name of Christianity, civilization, democracy and the "Good Neighbor Policy" the following resolutions:

1. Appointment by the President of a Negro as one of the six secretaries at the White House with a passion for anonymity and that accredited Negro newspaper correspondents be admitted to White House conferences. The next vacancy on the Supreme Court be filled by a Negro and consideration in all sections of the country of Negro lawyers for appointment to vacancies on the federal District and Appeals courts.

2. Passage of legislation by Congress to compel private industry and unions to lift the color bar against the employment of Negroes on account of race or the alternative support of government ownership all down the line in competition similar to the ship yards, TVA, Grand Coullee and Boulder Dam Power projects. Resolutions appealing to the conventions of the A. F. of L. in New Orleans and CIO in Atlantic City to take action prohibiting discrimination against workers in their affiliated unions on account of race and color and to support legislation by Congress outlawing same.

3. Authorization of a five-billion dollar relief and work construction and conservation appropriation by Congress in 1941 in order to put every able-bodied unemployed man and woman regardless of race, creed or color to work through extension and expansion of WPA, CCC, NYA, Farm Security and Federal Housing program. Enlargement and inclusion of Social Security legislation affording protection, unemployment insurance and old age pensions to domestic and farm laborers. Assurance of a job for every able-bodied American in private industry or on WPA, as the first principle of Total National Defense and human Security.

ADOPT $1,500 WAGE

4. Protection of all citizens in their Civil Rights regardless of race, creed, or color. Elimination of applicants' pictures in federal Civil Service examinations and appointment of a Negro executive assistant to the U. S. Civil Service Commission to further recent presidential order prohibiting discrimination.

Passage of the Ramspeck Civil Service law and adoption of a $1,500 minimum annual wage for all federal and District employes. Employment of Negroes in Justice Department and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. A $60 wage increase for Post Office and all other low paid workers to meet mounting cost of living in 1941.

PROVIDE AIR TRAINING

5. Appropriation of $25,000,000 to provide similar facilities at Tuskegee Institute, Tuskegee, Ala., as those now at Kelly and Randolph Fields, Texas., and another under construction at Corpus Cristi, Tex., in order to provide training for Negro air pilots in the U. S. Army.

Further the earmarking of a $10,000,000 appropriation in the 1941 federal budget to enlarge the present naval and air base at the Virgin Islands for the training of Negro sailors and air pilots in the U. S. Navy as is now found at Pensacola, Fla., as well as the appointment by the President of 50 Negroes to qualify as naval officers at Annapolis in the regular four-year course.

AID EDUCATION

6. Continued and increased federal aid to Negro land grant colleges, agricultural, vocational, health, business and higher education throughout the South and North. Extension of Agriculture Department and surplus commodities of the food stamps operations and school lunch program to all parts of the country and inclusion of staple goods such as cotton, like in the mattress program, in the distribution program to persons on relief.

7. A $10,000,000 federal appropriation in 1941 to assure Negroes of professional training at Howard University and Freedmen's Hospital as doctors, dentists, nurses, lawyers, engineers, technicians and business experts since such training is not available at present in 17 states with more than 8,000,000 Negro residents and taxpayers so equal opportunity is not afforded as ruled by the Supreme Court in the Gaines Case.

PLACE NEGRO OFFICERS

8. Immediate calling out by the War Department of Negro Reserve officers to be placed in command of the four Negro regiments of the regular U. S. Army and the newly formed emergency defense units as well as the promotion of Negro noncommissioned officers in these companies. Appointment of Negro Intelligence officers, medical officers, chaplains, and hostesses in the U. S. Army.

9. Enlistment without reservation of Negroes in the Army, Navy and Air Corps and a Negro Civilian aide to Secretary of the Navy with similar duties to Negro aide to Secretary of War.

$100,000 PROGRAM FUND

10. The National Negro Council, the United Government Employes and affiliated educational and church organizations pledge a $100,000 fund to support this executive and legislative program in 1941 dedicated to the cause of peace, unity, security, national defense for all the Americans, racial good-will and calls upon the 12,000,000 Negro Americans North and South to back up the campaign financially and morally, as a continuing celebration in 1941 of the 75th anniversary of the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation by President Lincoln.

A copy of these resolutions was ordered presented by a committee of the National Negro Council to President Roosevelt, members of Congress, government officials and the press.

Resolutions Commitee

The committee on resolutions included: Edgar G. Brown, chairman, President United Government Employees, Inc.; Rev. C. T. Murray, trustee, National Baptist Convention, Inc., and president, Baptist Convention of District of Columbia; Bishop R. R. Wright, Jr., African Methodist Episcopal Church; Dr. W. H. Jernagin, president, National Sunday School Congress; Willard W. Allen, president, Southern Life Insurance Company and vice-president National Negro Business League; N. T. Gray, welfare director, National Alliance of Postal Employees; and Thomas P. Bomar, secretary, National Alliance of Postal Employees.

——A Colored Judge——

Edgar Brown Issues Call For Negro Meet; Far-Reaching Program Outlined

Unidentified newspaper
DEC 21 1940
New York, N.Y.

WASHINGTON—The National Negro Council called by the United Government Employes, Inc., leaders of the African Methodist Episcopal Church and the National Baptist Convention, Inc., speaking in the name of 12,000,000 loyal patriotic Negro Americans devoted to the cause of peace, goodwill, National Unity and total defense, unanimously pledges its unreserved confidence in and support of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt.

The council, indorsed all aid to Britain, money, ships, planes, everything short of the exclusion by the Federal Government of the Negro American's rights and constitutional opportunity in our democracy to work, fight and live.

The council suggested the appointment by the President of a Negro as one of the six secretaries at the White House with a passion for anonymity and that accredited Negro newspaper correspondents be admitted to White House conferences. The next vacancy on the Supreme Court to be filled by a Negro and consideration in all sections of the country of Negro lawyers for appointment to vacancies on the Federal District and Appeals Courts.

Passage of legislation by Congress to compel private industry and unions to lift the color bar against the employment of Negroes on account of race or the alternative support of government ownership all down the line in competition similar to the ship yards, TVA, Grand Coulee and Boulder Dam Power projects.

Authorization of a five billion dollar relief and work construction and conservation appropriation by Congress in 1941 in order to put every able-bodied unemployed man and woman regardless of race, creed or color to work through extension and expansion of WPA, CCC, NYA, Farm Security and Federal Housing program.

Enlargement and inclusion of Social Security legislation affording protection, employment insurance and old age pensions to domestics and farm laborers. Assurance of a job for every able-bodied American in private industry or on WPA, as the first principle of total National Defense and human Security.

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The National Negro Council, the United Government Employes and affiliated educational and church organizations pledge a $100,000 fund to support this executive and legislative program in 1941 dedicated to the cause of peace, unity, security, national defense for all the Americas, racial good-will and progress under the administration of President Roosevelt's "Good Neighbor Policy" and calls upon the 12,000,000 Negro Americans, North and South, to back up the campaign financially and morally, as a continuing celebration in 1941 of the 75th anniversary of the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation by President Lincoln.

DEC 21 1940

Copies of the resolutions were presented by a committee of the National Negro Council to President Roosevelt, members of Congress, government officials and the press. Committee on Resolutions, National Negro Council: Edgar G. Brown, Chairman, President United Government Employees, Inc., Rev. C. T. Murray, Trustee National Baptist Contion, Inc., and President Baptist Convention of District of Columbia; Bishop R.R. Wright, A. M. E. Church, Dr. W. H. Jernigan, President National Sunday School Congress, Willard W. Allen, Vice President National Negro Business League; G. N. T. Gray and Thomas P. Bomar, National Alliance of Postal Employees.

Gulfport, Miss. Herald
December 2, 1940

DEMANDS FOR ANOTHER COLOR

An interesting, progressive, changeful and radical program was proposed by a two-day conference in Washington in mid-November of the National Negro Council "and United States Government Employes," at which 1500 were reported present. We take the following account from a Washington dispatch:

> Acclaiming President Roosevelt as the "chosen leader of the American people for the next four years and the proven friend of the common man, regardless of race, creed, or color," the conference endorsed all aid to Britain "short of the exclusion by the Federal government of the Negro American's rights and constitutional opportunity in our democracy to work, fight and live."
>
> The conference asked for appointment of a Negro to the next Supreme Court vacancy, of another as one of the President's six administrative assistants, of others to Federal District and higher courts, of Negro Reserve officers to command of Negro regiments and decided to start a $100,000 campaign to press for these and similar demands.
>
> We announced recently the appointment of a Negro on one of the appeal court benches in New York, with the approval and aid, no doubt, of Mayor LaGuardia. The "acclaiming" of the President in the foregoing account may have been not only recognition of his sympathies but even to tie him to the program of the conference—though that conference cannily proposed to campaign for $100,000 to pay for incidentals.
>
> The demanded or proposed appointments to the federal judiciary may have had in mind if not in view the reported early retirement of Chief Jusctice Hughes from the Supreme Court. An appointment to that vacancy would seemingly assure a Negro appointee sympathetic companionship. Two signal decisions have been rendered by an Alabama member regarding indictments returned by Southern grand juries having too few Negroes on them: Justice Black rendered one on Lincoln's anniversary, and the other close to the Thanksgiving Day fixed by the President.

Contractors Calling for Skilled Negro Workers

Call For 40 Unfilled Due To Wrong Address

By S. A. HAYNES

NEWPORT NEWS, Va.—Last wek, W. P. Hornlein, manager of the local office of the State Employment Service Bureau, put in a call to the Journal and Guide to help him locate 40 cement finishers.

Unfortunately, those we registered for work on the Harbor Homes slum-clearance project could not be reached immediately, for two reasons: they had moved to new addresses; they were not known at the telephone number they gave us.

All Negroes in the skilled and semi-skilled trades seeking employment on the Peninsula, are urgently requested to leave their proper address and telephone number with the Journal and Guide, 641-25th Street, Newport News, Va., or do so by calling Newport News 4571.

Contractors on housing and private projects have indicated to the Employment Bureau that they are willing to use Negro tradesmen, if competent and experienced ones can be found. As a public service, we are cooperating with Mr. Hornlein in getting these placed as quickly as possible.

Tradesmen are also instructed to register at the Employment Bureau and take along their social security cards. This is the first essential in getting a job.

Payroll Is Almost $375,000

Placements Have Reduced Unemployment

NEWPORT NEWS, Va.—This booming shipbuilding city was given something else to cheer lustily about again last week when officials proudly announced that the payroll had passed the 12,000 employee mark.

This is the highest figure on record since the peak of 1920 when 13,000 men and women were employed.

In actual dollars and cents, the weekly pay envelopes are approaching the mark of $375,000.

Recent heavy assignment of navy contracts is expected to increase the number of white and colored employes to between 18,000 and 20,000 within the next few months, officials anticipated.

6 MILLION EXPANSION

Last week also, Congress appropriated $6,000,000 for expansion of facilities at the local yard, as recommended by the navy department.

From the office of the State Employment Service Bureau, E. P. Hornlein, manager, came too, the good news that demands for all type of workers, skilled and unskilled, and domestic and private servants, have considerably reduced the unemployment rolls.

For the week ending August 3, there were but 1,740 unplaced persons in the Peninsula area. Placements were 255 for the week; placements on government projects were 16, an increase of 5 over the previous week.

LABOR- 1940
OCCUPATION, WAGES, ETC.

VIRGINIA

Newspaper Seeks Aid Of Job Agency

Families Pray That Their Men May Be Called

By S. A. HAYNES

NEWPORT NEWS, Va.—There are 385 skilled and semi-skilled Negro tradesmen on the Peninsula, chiefly in Newport News and Hampton, ready and willing to work on the slum clearance project for Negro families, if and when called.

Six months ago, as a public service, the Journal and Guide opened registration of men qualified by experience and training for such employment if desired. Of the 379 who registered, 20 did so by mail from four states; 65 per cent worked previously on the Aberdeen Gardens project; and 20 per cent were World War veterans.

33 TRADES

The list covers 33 trades and skills. In order of registration it shows: 64 carpenters, 50 painters, 23 bricklayers, 15 plumbers, 14 cement finishers, 14 truck drivers, 6 electricians, 7 timekeepers, 3 riggers, 3 plasterers, 1 sheet metal worker, 1 sheet rock finisher, 1 foundation cutter, one joint welder, two blacksmiths and Acetylene welders, one foundation builder, 69 carpenter's helpers, 47 bricklayer's helpers, 27 plumber's helpers, 8 watchmen and guards, 11 clerical workers (8 men and 3 women), 1 warehouse supervisor, 1 operator. 730 children, wives and mothers depend upon them for means of livelihood.

The registration list will be opened until April 20 at the Journal and Guide Peninsula Office, 641—25th Street. When completed, copies will be turned over to the local Housing Authority, and to Mr. E. P. Hornlein, manager of the local office of the State Employment Bureau, with whom the Journal and Guide is cooperating.

PRAY FOR WORK

The majority of these tradesmen are the sole dependents of their families in which there are from two to seven children. More than 50 per cent of them have been without regular employment since completion of the Aberdeen Gardens project.

A goodly number are college and high school graduates, anxious to make an honest living to provide for aged or sick relatives, to continue their education, or to meet pressing domestic responsibilities.

Heartened by the fine work being done by the Housing Authority to get the project started as soon as possible, many families whose men folk have registered at the Journal and Guide office, said last week that they are praying for them to be called so as to ease the fear and uncertainty which haunt them daily.

Newport News, Va. Press
May 31, 1940

VIRGINIA NEEDS MORE HIGHLY SKILLED WORKMEN

B. H. VAN OOT, State Supervisor of Industrial Arts and Vocational Education, told the Peninsula Industrial Education Club a few evenings ago at Buckroe Beach that Virginia as a State is woefully lacking in skilled mechanical help. What he says, of course, is true to some extent, for Virginia is still predominantly an agricultural State, although industry has made marked gains during the past few years. But we doubt that the picture is as dark as Mr. VAN OOT paints it. Virginia does boast of a large number of skilled mechanics, some of them the best in the world.

Yet we unquestionably should pay more attention to the training of men for the industrial trades. Our high schools and our colleges are, in the main, geared to train young men for white collar jobs. As a result, there occurs a shortage of skilled mechanics when industry is booming.

Industrial education, however, is a complicated process. The schools and the colleges can lay the groundwork. But actual experience must be secured in an industrial plant. Hence until we have more industrial plants we are going to have a shortage of skilled mechanics, regardless of what the schools and the colleges do.

The schools and the colleges, however, can and should lay the ground work. Usually when this suggestion is made the first thing asked is another fine building for industrial training. This, we know, is true in Newport News. And we suspect that the same situation exists in other cities.

In recent years there has been much talk about industrial training in the Negro schools in this city. But little has been done about it because the first thing on the program was a Negro industrial school building. We submit however, that boys can be taught to lay bricks to mix mortar, to build houses and to execute many other industrial tasks without having to do it in a $30,000 building, which has been requested by those interested in the movement.

Until the problem is approached realistically in this and in other cities, complaints like that of Mr. VAN OOT will continue. It is not industrial training that some of our educators want so much as it is fine industrial training buildings. Education of all kinds, we regret to say, is measured much too often on the basis of cost of plant equipment rather than on accomplishment of the students.

WANTED:- Young Energetic Woman Willing To Work Hard

Experience preferred, as secretary with an established firm. Must be expert at filing, shorthand, typing, and as general executive's assistant. Give references, itemize experience, training. Indicate married or single; state minimum salary. Write "Wanted," clo Journal and Guide, Norfolk, Va.

Business Opportunity

For Young Woman experienced by being directly associated in a general store, or who by preference shows an aptitude for such a business, to act as sales lady in small but growing establishment in North Carolina city.

Write for full details, enclosing photo and giving references. Dept. 6, c|o Journal and Guide, Norfolk, Va.

Laundry Workers In Petersburg On Strike

Reveal Wages Of 13 and 14 Cents Per Hour

PETERSBURG, Va., Seventy laundry workers representing four Petersburg laundries staged a walk-

The strike, which has been out here last week, carried out in an orderly manner, was precipitated after negotiations between the Petersburg laundry owners and the Local No. 160, International Laundry Workers' Union failed to reach an agreement over wage scales.

The negotiation began August 1 and terminated Wednesday, August 8, following a meeting of the group at the Elks Home on Byrnes St.

The laundry owners refused to meet the demands of the Union at the first meeting on July 1, but asked for a period of three weeks to answer.

At a second meeting on July 22, a committee of four was selected to draw up a joint agreement to be submitted to general committee and presented the employers. They refused the proposed terms on July 29th.

WORKERS ULTIMATUM

The workers are asking for union recognition, a 44-hour week, time and one-half for overtime, and the five national holidays. The minimum set by the strikers is 20 cents per hour. It was revealed that some of the workers now receive as little as 10 cents per hour, and the highest 19 cents. The general average is between 13 and 14 cents per hour.

E. J. Shaver, secretary-treasurer of the Virginia State Federation of Labor, and David Alston, organizer for the American Federation of Labor, represented the union, while Mr. Walthall and Mr. Robinson represented the laundry owners.

While further negotiations are are pending some of the laundries are working on a limited scale with strikebreakers.

Newport News, Va Press
September 29, 1940

Shipyard Negro Center Planning Membership Drive

Third annual membership campaign of the Negro community center, which is sponsored by the Newport News shipyard, will get under way during the week of Oct. 6, it was announced yesterday by J. Alexander Williams, Negro, manager.

In announcing plans for the campaign, he said that it is felt that the community center provides a place for wholesome recreation for the increased number of Negro young men who are coming to this city to obtain or who have obtained employment.

He also said that the center plans to provide a full program of activities for the fall and winter, but that arrangements for the activities will depend to a great extent on the response to the membership campaign.

Three teams are to be selected A chairman and vice-chairman will be named. The teams will be headed by captains, as was the case last year and they will compete for top honors in bringing in membership. There are now between 600 and 700 members of the recreation center.

Brakemen Seek Contract With Railroad

Irregularities At Terminals Are Charged

A collective bargaining contract covering rates of pay, rules and working conditions affecting car riders employed at the Sewalls Point Terminals of the Virginian Railroad will be presented to officials of the company in the near future it developed this week in the wake of a conference between officials of the railroad and representatives of the Association of Colored Railway Trainmen and Locomotive Firemen.

The action will be the outgrowth of complaints made by brakemen employed by the company against working conditions at the railroad terminals over a period of years which were climaxed on December 10, last year.

Reinstatement of four men who have not been reemployed since that daet when railroad officials claimed they "walked off" the job together with 22 others, is also being asked, according to Joseph C. Waddy, Washington, D. C. attorney and associate of Charles H. Houston, general counsel for the Association of Colored Railway Trainmen and Locomotive Firemen.

Two representatives of the association, together with Mr. Waddy, conferred with officials of the railroad company at headquarters here on Monday. They were: Samuel H. Clark of Christiansburg, Va., grand president, an dR. L. Edwards of Roanoke, Va., grand secretary-treasurer.

Presentation of the collective bargaining contract, and reinstatement of the four employees were given by Mr. Waddy as immediate objectives of the trainmen's association. Conferences were held on Saturday with the four men affected by the company's action.

Although the Virginia Railroad company recognized the Associaton of Colored Railway Trainmen and Locomotive Firemen as a bargaining agent, no collective bargaining contract has ever been held with the railroad, it was explained.

Representatives of the trainmen's association charge that three of the four men who have not been rehired by the railrooad company were members of a committee on grievances representing the association.

Complaints have also been made by the car riders of irregular workin ghours. They charge among other things that they are often required to do types of work other than that ordinarily required by car riders.

Colored Division of N. and W. to Meet In Roanoke, Sept. 7

ROANOKE, Va. — The ninth annual convention of the colored division of the Norfolk and Western Veterans Association will be held in Roanoke on Saturday, September 7, railway officials announced this week.

The morning session, which will convene at 10:45, will feature the presentation of diamond insignia to two men who have served the railroad 50 years or more. The presentation will be made by L. C. Ayers, Norfolk and Western general superintendent and a former president of the veterans association, to Pleas Flood, shipper in the general storekeeper's office, Roanoke, and Albert Mullen, brakeman, also of Roanoke, on the Norfolk division.

All sessions of the one-day meeting will be held in the Virginia Theatre, on Center Ave., in Roanoke. Breakfast and luncheon will be served the veterans at Hotel Dumas, just across the street from the theatre.

The Rev. A. L. James, pastor of the Roanoke First Baptist Church, will make the principal address. John Dagner, of Norfolk, retired yard brakeman and chairman of the association's colored division, and W. H. Bouseman, vice chairman, will make short talks.

Members of the association, their families and friends, will be entertained by a quality vaudeville show during the afternoon session.

Admission to the afternoon show is free to veterans wearing their convention badges. Free tickets for families and friends may be obtained before the show at the theatre.

More Negroes In City Jobs Is A Goal of Urban League

Report of Richmond Unit Reviews Gains In School, Industrial Fields

(Staff Correspondence)

RICHMOND, Va.—One of the major objectives of the Richmond Urban League for this year will be "the task of obtaining municipal employment for Negroes," according to the 1939 report of Wiley A Hall, executive secretary.

The league also plans a study to determine the extent to which small children are left alone at home as a means of suggesting a remedy for this habit which was responsible for the burning to death of four small children several months ago.

UNIONS SUGGESTED

In the industrial field, the report states, the league was successful in seeing that colored persons were given jobs on public works projects. By virtue of league activity with the cooperation of other organizations, colored were employed at the hospital for the Medical College of Virginia, the Baker school, swimming pool, and on other jobs. Mr. Hall points out, however, that more jobs could have been secured if colored workers were organized in labor unions or some other form of organization.

Mr. Hall suggests that Richmond workers and tradesmen form an organization which can receive recognition by the National Labor Relations Board to bargain collectively for their group thus putting their members on equal basis with other workers in the vicinity for obtaining jobs.

Mr. Hall says this procedure has worked in other cities and would "immediately broaden the employment horizon for a group of workers." The league plans to form such an organization in Richmond this year.

TWO NURSES NAMED

The first colored nurse for colored school was appointed in Richmond last year largely through the efforts of Mr. Hall. The second nurse began active duty on February 1, as a result of Mr. Hall's further efforts along this line. The league stands ready also, according to Mr. Hall's report, to cooperate with other organizations in obtaining a colored principal for every colored school as well as supervisors and special teachers for these schools.

Mr. Hall points out that "up to 1939 . . . we had five principals, two assistant principals, and one music teacher." "We believe the time thas come," the reports further says, "when every Negro school should have a Negro principal and when every supervisor and special teacher serving these schools should be chosen from among the hundreds of graduates of the public school system. . . "

The league rendered invaluable service in aiding workers who were laid off WPA jobs during the thirty-day vacation to be recertified, or in cases where workers were too old or otherwise unfitted for work, to be replaced by colored workers. The report tells of the experiences some of the workers had in trying to get re-instated on WPA jobs.

CIVIL SERVICE PROJECT

Another project of the league was the establishment of special classes for persons who want to take the Civil Service examination under the Virginia State Employment Service. Every one who joined the study class passed the examination and thus made the eligible list. The league also recommended that at least one colored person be selected for the business census and the Rev. D. J. Bradford was named.

171 JOBS UNFILLED

The placement service operated by the league sent 2,084 persons on jobs during last year. Statistics for this service show that there were 2,255 calls for workers, 1,806 new persons registered with the service, 5,675 visits to the office in search for work, and 171 jobs not filled during 1939.

The league sponsored the seventh annual Vocational Opportunity Campaign in March with the theme "Training Negro Youth Today for Jobs of Tomorrow." Much information was distributed during the week and two public meetings were held in addition to programs in the public schools, films on the topic in the schools and a special film on guidance for teachers.

CLERICS ORGANIZED

The league organized "The Ministers' Council on Economic Matters" as a means of obtaining more support for the league program among the ministers of the city. Twenty-five pastors belong to the organization and rendered valuable service to the league in its economic program.

A "Richmond Negro Business, Trade, and Professional Directory" will be published by the league using information gathered with the aid of two NYA workers during the year.

Mr. Hall is member of a committee which raised about $1,300 to repair the YMCA and to help in paying a worker to carry forward the Y program. Additional funds will be solicited from white friends to insure the payment of a regular "Y" worker.

Numerous activities and services are listed in Mr. Hall's report among them the fact that he is serving as advisor for several parolees at the request of the U. S. Parole Officer of this area in addition to serving in an advisory capacity for several individuals in financial and employment difficulties.

WILEY A. HALL

Norfolk Va Pilot
February 17, 1940

Again the Seven Year Itch

The seven-year itch of the barbers, now joined by the "beauticians," for legislation which would enable them to use the power of the State to organize these face-and-hair service crafts into tight trade guilds, is once more on view in the General Assembly. The new Barber-and-Beautician bill has a couple of fresh gadgets, but the chassis is the old model-T affair which relies on a seventh-grade educational qualification, an eighteen-months apprentice system and professional school diplomas, to provide all present barbers and beauticians with free wheeling, and to put future aspirants for the Virginia barbering and beautifying privilege largely at the mercy of a State Board of Barbering and Beauty Culture vested with wide discretionary powers.

The new gadgets provide for the addition of the State Health Commissioner and the State School Superintendent to the proposed State B. & B. C[illegible]oard as ex officio members—the first to see that the barber and beauty shops are sanitary, and the second to prescribe the curricular standards of schools for barbering and facial beautification. Neither of these busy State officials belong on the board because there is no need for any such board.

There is ample State and local law already on the books to compel barber shops to maintain adequate sanitary standards. Norfolk has such an ordinance and it could in no wise be strengthened by making Health Commissioner Riggin a kind of barber-and-beautician-shop Judge Landis. Barbering and beauty schools flourish all over the State. They vary in scholastic reputation, but so do all other private schools. That is no reason for making barbering and beauty schools an appendix of the Virginia public school system dignified by the ex-officio supervision of the State School Superintendent, but lacking in every other essential respect the characteristics of a system of public education.

What is the need for this legislation? One hears only one answer—that in the absence of this legislation, Virginia is becoming the dumping ground of incompetent and diseased barbers and beauticians who are endangering the public health. If this allegation has been sustained by any showing that the morbidity record of Virginia barbering and beautifying is worse than that of any State possessing this protective legislation, we have never heard of it. There are no figures suggesting this to be the case in Norfolk or any other Virginia city, nor in the State Department of Health.

The real purpose of this legislation, as distinguished from its show-window advertisements, has scores of times been explained in the professional journals of the craft. The purpose is to convert the craft into a restricted guild protected by an elaborate licensing and inspection system, to the end that competition within the craft may be held in check and its doors progressively closed against practitioners who, for many good reasons unrelated to their actual professional competence, cannot easily be regimented.

The Negro barbers view the legisla-

tion with undisguised alarm, and with excellent reason. The educational, apprentice and professional diploma requirements would, in the long run, tend to drive them from a profession they have practiced for a hundred years. The public health does not call for this legislation. It is called for only by those who want to use the power of the State to convert the barber and beauty business into a tight and protected guild. The Legislature has repeatedly killed the barber bill in the past. It can safely do so again.

Norfolk, Va Pilot
March 19, 1940

Negro Wins Right to Take Examination

Ernest Wright, Seeking Police Job, to Get Special Test

Ordered By Court

Judge Way Holds City Had No Right to Deny Application Due to Race

Negro men who can meet the general prerequisites must be allowed to take the city's Civil Service Commission examination for eligibility to serve in the police department, Judge Luther B. Way ruled yesterday in Federal District Court after a hearing that lasted until late in the afternoon.

His decision was made in the case of Ernest Wright, Negro, who was refused the right to take a Civil Service Commission examination for police service last October 21 under the rule that applications were acceptable "from white males only."

Wright brought suit on the ground that such a refusal was a violation of the Fourteenth Amendment of the Constitution. He sought not only the right to take the examination, but the revocation of eligibility now held by 28 men who passed the examination.

The judge declined to disturb the eligibility of the persons who successfully passed the examination holding that they participated in it in good faith and without any knowledge of the alleged unconstitutionality.

Orders Special Test

However, he ordered the Civil Service Commission to arrange an examination for Wright in the future and directed that it be "substantially the same as the one on October 21, no easier and no harder."

The general opinion in municipal circles last night was that Wright had won a hollow victory. His eligibility for service in the police department, provided he passes the Civil Service Commission examination, does not mean his appointment, the names of the five ranking persons eligible for appointment are sent to the Chief of Police, who makes the appointment subject to the approval of the City Manager. If Wright's examination standing is such that he is the ranking man eligible, he still has no assurance that he would be appointed. Ten names are considered when two appointments are to be made.

Judge Way steadfastly declined to consider the case on technicalities. He held the arguments in the one outstanding question—"whether this man may be debarred from the right to take the examination because of his race."

Civil Rights Issue

"The question here," the judge said, "is whether the settled policy of the Commission (in not accepting applications from Negroes) is not depriving the man of his civil rights."

The hearing opened with the testimony of Commission members as to the policy in regard to accepting Negro applications, and in this connection W. Taylor Johnson a member of the Commission, said it was his opinion that the Commission felt it would "not make for the best interests of the Police Department to have Negroes appointed, even though they served in the Negro districts."

A letter written by Armistead Borland, secretary of the Commission, to Jerry O. Gillam, president of the Norfolk Chapter of the National Association for Advancement of Colored People, in which it was stated that applications were received "from white males only," played an important part in the hearing.

City Attorney Alfred Anderson conducted the arguments for the city, supported by the two other attorneys on his staff, Jonathan W. Old, Jr., and William C. Coupland.

Wright was represented by a Negro attorney, F. J. Thorogood.

Mr. Anderson said after the hearing that he had no time to consider whether the City of Norfolk would appeal the case.

Sexton Proud of His 54 Years Service With Only One Church

RICHMOND—Joshua of the Old Testament, who followed Moses, leader of the children of Israel, has hardly a better record of faithful service than Joshua Kinney, 72, sexton of Second Presbyterian Church of this city.

On April 2, Mr. Kinney rounded out his 54th year as sexton of a fashionable white church.

A bachelor, who has had his pleasant moments with members of the opposite sex, Mr. Kinney is sincerely devoted to his job at the church.

BEGAN AT 18

Mr. Kinney came to the Second Presbyterian Church to serve in the capacity of sexton on April 2, 1886, when he was only 18. He chose to work rather than remain in school because he wanted to relieve his mother, whom he thought had to work too hard.

On completing his 50th year as sexton, the women of the congregation gave him a purse in appreciation of his service.

Mr. Kinney was born in Goochland County, Va., and came to Richmond when he was 12. He attended the local public schools and later went to the old Richmond Normal School.

REGRETS BACHELORHOOD

While Mr. Kinney is a bachelor, he admitted that his failure to marry is the greatest mistake in his life.

"It is bad," he said, "to come to old age without anyone to care for you or to look after you in case of sickness or need."

At the completion of his 54 years, Mr. Kinney was presented a purse by the Rev. Fred V. Poag, pastor, on behalf of the congregation consisting in large part of the grandchildren of members he first served.

Mr. Kinney was sexton of the church when the Rev. Moses Hoge, who served as pastor 54 years, died. The church has had only four tence.

Mr. Kinney has served with every pastor of the church. What he thinks of his years of service is expressed in his little book, "My Years of Service," written in 1931. Mr. Kinney says in the book, "It has been a wonderful experience to me to have been with one work, one church, one people, and one Lord, for 45 years."

In Goochland County, Mr. Kinney attended Emmaus Baptist Church, where he got his first Bible lessons in the Sunday School. On several occasions he has assisted the financial drives of that church.

Speaking of his school days, Mr. Kinney said that Mrs. Kate Archer Norrell was his first teacher and her husband, Albert A. Norrell, was his last teacher. "I got more out of Mr. Norrell as a teacher than I did from any other teacher," he said. "Why, he was wonderful!" He also commended the teaching ability of Mrs. Norrell.

Six Colored Miners Die In Bartley Blast

No Hope Held For Victims of Worst Tragedy Since '28

By William "Specks" Johnson

BARTLEY, W. Va. — Of the 51 widows and the 169 fatherless children left after the tragic explosion of the Pond Creek Pocahontan Coal Company mine here last week took 91 lives, 19 are colored. There are four Negro widows and 15 children left without a father.

Six colored miners were trapped deep in the mine. They were: Charley Moffit, 42, married, father of four; Will Benjamin, 45, married, father of four; Clarence Oatmeal, 49, single; Sanders Fultz, 45, married, father of two; Felix Harper, 40, married, father of five; and Robert Crib, 32, single. All lived in Bartley.

This was the worst mining disaster since 1928 when 195 were killed.

Governor Homer A. Holt and Ben Downing, assistant to the workmen's compensation commissioner of West Virginia, visited the scene of the disaster to confer with officials of the mining company and to help to speed up compensation adjustments for the families of the workers lost in the blast.

RESCUE PARTIES

The explosion rocked the countryside Thursday. For two days rescue parties toiled ceaselessly to try to save the men trapped deep in the mine. It is thought that most of the miners escaped the original blast but that many died later because of gases and because of insufficient air.

The blast occurred about a mile and a quarter from the surface opening. Forty-seven miners were known to have escaped without injury. Four bodies were found in the wrecked corridor of the Bartley No. 1 mine of the Pond Creek firm. One of these men was Charles Moffitt.

The origin of blast has not been accurately determined yet. All hope of finding the entombed men alive has been abandoned. It is fairly certain that the men could not have lived this long in the airtight mine even if they were not killed by landslides or by falling debris.

LABOR - 1940
UNIONS STRIKES ETC.

UNDER THE MICROSCOPE

By E. WASHINGTON RHODES

JOHN L. LEWIS COURAGEOUS FIGHTER

NOV 28 1940

ACCORDING to the radio broadcasts from London, Hitler's bombers are hitting hospitals, churches, schools and dwellings. If what I have heard is true, there must be at least a hundred thousand hospitals in London. When I hear over the air: "This is Berlin", I expect to hear next that "Several hospitals were hit last night by the Royal Air Force." I have heard it so often that I no longer listen. It puzzles me, however, when I hear these reports. I never knew there were so many hospitals in the world. Then, too, I wonder how it is possible for bombers riding in all kinds of weather to select with such deadly accuracy nothing except hospitals. There is something fishy about those hospital bombings, unless Berlin and London are made up of only hospitals.

RHODES

And another thing: all the news which I hear coming directly from Europe I have already read it in the newspapers. It appears to me that there should be some kind of an investigation by Secretary of the Interior Ickes on that matter. The newspapers must be using some kind of subversive influence to get the news and print it before the broadcasters can shout it over the radio. Entrenched greed or some such thing must be at work to permit that condition to exist.

Philadelphia Tribune

I have been one of John L. Lewis most severe critics. Publicly and privately I have said some mighty mean things about him, some of them unfit to print. Therefore, when I read his speech last week and found that he was interested in the enfranchisement of the millions who can not vote in the South, I resolved to change my attitude. Not only is John Lewis desirous of those disfranchised millions having the right to vote, he is earnestly trying to do something about it. It requires exceedingly great courage for a man who occupies a high position to run contrary to popular public opinion.

Philadelphia Pa.

The voteless millions in the South suffer the torments of the damned, with their "shrunken bellies", to quote Mr. Lewis; and a shrunken belly means that the owner of it will become a victim of human ailments and diseases and finally die before his time. That is what that means. And the children in these homes become ill because their little bellies do not have in them the food they need. And their fathers and mothers sit and watch them die and weep.

One of the most un-American of all un-American practices is the robbing of the millions in the Solid South of their right to vote. This matter of vote-stealing by taking away the right to vote has created a caste political control by a minority. "They send their representatives to Washington to exercise an improper and unfair and outrageous control over the policies of the rest of this nation", declared Mr. Lewis.

While the Democratic party is the chief beneficiary of this practice, the Republican party is not blameless. The leaders of the Republican party in Congress must, if they were sincere during the recent campaign, project this matter with force and courage before Congress and the American public. The South has gotten away with political murder long enough. The Republican party's platform pledged itself to universal suffrage for colored Americans. Simply because the Republicans did not win the presidential election, is not sufficient reason for them not to fight for the voteless millions. Aside from being the human and decent thing to do, it is excellent political strategy.

Mr. Lewis, in your fight for the voteless millions with "shrunken bellies", I am with you unto the end.

(The views expressed in the above column do not necessarily reflect the editorial policy of this newspaper.—Editor's Note.)

LEWIS AND THE COMMUNISTIC VICTORY

John L. Lewis is a charlatan of the worst stripe. He is today an obstacle to the development of the national defense and for motives that do him no credit.

The Congress of Industrial Organization is a legitimate labor movemnet. Its president and its officers occupy a legitimate position according to the constitution and by-laws of the CIO. But one thing not generally known is that the constitution and by-laws of the organization are so constructed that a handful of the rank and file membership can direct its policies. That is exactly what is happening right now. And that handful is composed of radical left-wingers who are intimate with if not affiliated with the communist party.

John L. Lewis has been the behind the scene sponsor of the clique and the clique has returned the favor by fixing it so that Lewis can do anything he pleases just so they okay it.

NOV 21 1940

Lewis promised to resign if President Roosevelt was reelected. He has offered his resignation, but there is some doubt whether it will be accepted now that the convention has really gotten underway. Even if it is accepted Lewis will still rule the CIO roost from his position as head of the United Mine Workers. The CIO presidency carries no salary. As head of the United Mine Workers Lewis gets $25,000 a year, more than any other officer in the CIO.

There has long been manifest a desire on the part of organized labor, industrial management, and the government of the United States that peace should come to labor. The war between the American Feedration of Labor and the CIO has been costly and useless. It has produced confusion of counsel concerning labor legislation. It has tended to weaken, more than any other single factor, the economic structure upon which we all depend for our existence.

Prior to the conventions of the two rival organizations auguries of peace were considered good. They were still good until Lewis got up on his two hind legs and pledged all his future efforts to prevent any peace.

Adventure

What can Lewis's motive be? He is assured of his wage even if labor reconciles its differences. There are many of his lieutenants who would be out on their ears, but mere sympathy for a handful of good fellows should not stand in the way of the security of millions. Or could it? But there is one other possible explanation.

It is known that the communist party purpose in the United States is to sabotage as much as possible the United States defense effort. The communists holler pacifism when they start their dirty work but the fact that Russia is not only heavily armed but is trying to arm still further is usually glossed over. This direct charge can be made. No United States communist is opposed to the national defense program because of any idealism of pacifism. What they desire to keep the United States weak so that it will be easy prey when the time is propitious for the commies and their brethren to strike.

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Lewis may be merely misguided. But this has approximately as many craft unions as even if the AFL and the AFL has approximately as many industrial unions as the CIO.

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recognition of it in many ways. Lewis has either not recognized it or he has deliberately closed his eyes to it.

The people of the United States cannot permit obstructionist activity of any sort no matter the cost in social gains lost or labor privileges revoked.

VALUE OF UNIONISM SHOWN BY CASE OF RED CAP FIRED FOR RESENTING BEING CALLED "NIGGER"

New York Age New York Post

DEC 14 1940

By FRANK R. CROSSWAITH
General Organizer I. L. G. W. U.

Once more the great value of trade union organization to Negro workers has been amply demonstrated in a most dramatic way.

The United Transport Service Employees Union, the Red Cap's organization, has fought and won the case of Ben Ransaw who had worked for ten years as a Red Cap at Grand Central Station. One day last summer Ransaw was carrying the bags of an elderly Negro passenger who was sick, and who wanted and needed a cab, two white men coming behind him, probably Southerners and certainly drunk, began cursing and swearing at him. They called him a "damned nigger" and demanded that he and the passenger for whom he had called the cab, give up the cab to them although they were clearly behind him in the line of people seeking cabs.

Ransaw defended the Negro passengers right to the cab successfully, and the cab drove off; but the two drunken white "gentlemen" attempted to strike Ransaw and in the melee which resulted he shoved one of them. They demanded that the matter be taken up with the Station Master. To this Ransaw agreed expecting confidentially to be sustained, because the whites were abusive and drunk and without any right in the matter. To his surprise, he was discharged on the demand of the two men who had abused him.

But this did not end the story. For some time Negroes in this line of work in New York and elsewhere have been quietly organizing into an effective trade union. The Union carried Ransaw's case to the highest officials of the Railroad but without satisfaction. The case was then taken by the Union before the Railroad Labor Adjustment Board which had been created for the Railroad industry because of the power of the Union in that industry. As soon as this was done, the Railway management sought from the Union another hearing on the matter.

The management wanted to reinstate Ransaw in his job and thus settle the affair. But the Union demanded reinstatement with full seniority rights, removal of any blot on Ransaw's record as an employee and full back pay for the time since the discharge and the unemployment compensation which he had drawn meanwhile. On this basis, with full reinstatement on his job and with all of his rights, the case was settled.

Every Red Cap in the station and in the country, and every Negro worker who valued his dignity and manhood, has a right to be proud and held his head a little higher as the result of the outcome of this case. It was a battle without blood, fought and won under the democratic system of America by organized workers.

What is not always realized regarding the United Transport Service Employees Union is that this organization, controlled from top to bottom by Negroes is open without discrimination to white porters, who are as welcome to membership as are Negro porters. This fine example of organization without discrimination is just what the Negro Labor Committee and all the growing thousands of Negroes in the trade union movement throughout the United States as well as the significant growing number of sensible and civilized white trade unionists are demanding of the organized labor movement.

DEC 14 1940

Something New In Alabama

Down in Birmingham, Ala., last week, it is reported that the street car service was held up about forty hours when Negro laborers struck for an increase in pay. The whole things is something new under the sun, in Alabama, and among Negroes in other parts.

Savannah Journal
Sept 14 1940

Not only did those Negro laborers pull together, but by the strength of their unity they impelled the white trainmen to respect their right and refuse to cross the picket lines of the colored men, who thereby succeeded in accomplishing their purpose.

Several years ago while attending the Kentucky State Fair, we noticed in front of one of the exhibits a sign which read and a barker crying out loud, "come inside and see something you have never seen before, for only ten cents." We accepted the challenge, and saw something little, which was also much—ten Negroes at the end of a rope, pulling together. Savannah Ga.

Down in Alabama we are shown more than that. In Birmingham we are given an exhibition which evidences what the results are when Negroes organize and work together, and the support and cooperation we receive from others when we show a sincerity and respect within our own ranks.

The Negro laborers in Alabama teach a lesson which might help those of us in high stations of business, professional, political and general civic life.

Co-operation Wins Every Time

It is doubtful if history records an incident similar to one which occurred in Birmingham, Ala., last week when the local street cars were tied up for 39 hours and 40 minutes. Negro laborers, something heretofore unheard of in the South, struck for more money.

It is not so much that the Negroes had asked for 3½ cents an hour increase, nor is it so important that representatives of the strikers and officials of the company signed an agreement after an all-night session. What is important and epochal, however, is the fact that the strike was brought to a successful culmination because the white trainmen refused to cross picket lines manned by Negroes, and brought the city's transportation system to a complete standstill.

Co-operation of this kind between white and Colored groups in the South, both in labor and political organizations appears to us to be the key to the troubled situation that is causing American political, economic and social workers so much concern about the Southern half of our country.

Six Alabama Cops Face Jail In Union Raid

Attack Steel and Rubber Meeting Under Anti-Negro Ordinance

Daily Worker

GADSDEN, Ala., March 3 (FP).—Six Gadsden police officers who raided the meeting place of the Steel Workers Organizing Committee and United Rubber Workers (both CIO) Feb. 14 and arrested 29 workers may face federal indictments for violations of the workers' constitutional rights, local CIO attorneys announced. 3-4-40

The action would be based on a recent case in New Orleans in which in which a cop and two other men were indicted for beating up a photographer during the Democratic gubernatorial primary, Jan. 16. The photographer was "deprived of his rights, privileges and immunities secured and protected by the constitution and laws of the U. S.," the indictment charged.

Similarly the Gadsden workers were deprived of their rights when police raided their hall just before a meeting, Feb. 14, without a warrant or formal charge, CIO attorneys said. New York Mg

The arrests were made under a city ordinance which "forbids the meeting of Negroes and whites for the purpose of evasion or violation of any law, the advocacy of miscegeneration or social equality between the races forbidden by law or State, county or city government." Upon being arrested the workers denied having violated the ordinance.

Just before the meeting two city detectives approached a Negro steel worker and asked him if he was going to attend. When he answered in the affirmative, they dragged him into the hall, arrested him along with three other Negroes and 25 white men, and confiscated a number of membership cards.

Union officials believed the raid was staged by the local police chief for the purpose of supplying the local Republic Steel Corp. plant with a list of union members and sympathizers. The SWOC is trying to organize the Tom Girdler plant and the URW is conducting an organizational drive in the Goodyear Tire and Rubber Co. plant.

C.I.O. WINS 1ST STAGE OF ALA. JIM-CROW TILT

Defender

Charges Filed Against Men For Interracial Meet Dropped

3-16-40

By AUGUSTA JACKSON STRONG

GADSDEN, Ala., March 15—C.I.O. leaders of the Alabama District jubilantly announced this week the dismissal of charges against four members of the Steel Workers Organizing committee and 25 white members arrested in this company for violation of a city ordinance forbidding the assembly of the races together.

The occasion of the arrests was a meeting for the purpose of organizing the workers of a subsidiary company of Republic Steel which employs thousands of Race workers throughout the Alabama industrial area.

Gadsden is notorious in the history of labor unionism in the South for its unequalled hostility to union organizers and its past success in defeating every previous attempt to unionize its large steel plants.

A few years ago it figured prominently in Senate investigations of violations of civil rights, especially among labor organizers.

The Steel Workers Organizing committee of the C.I.O. which recently launched its southern drive had called the meeting in Gadsden, as it does its union meetings throughout Alabama, with both races occupying the same hall, and men of both races playing leading roles as officers.

The meeting was an answer to complaints of many steel plant employees that despite the wage and hour legislation for the steel industry, they were sometimes forced to work from 60 to 80 hours a week, without the prescribed increases in pay for overtime.

Employees who protested against the hours or pay were arbitrarily required to take a ten days' vacation without pay, the workers related. Trade unions, they said, were not even to be mentioned in the steel works as a topic of conversation, so great was the opposition of the plant management to unionization.

At a protest meeting called by the C.I.O. leaders of the district including Noel Beddow and Yelverton Cowherd, and Ebb Cox, a well-known S.W.O.C. organizer, in addition to many whites 76 Race members were in attendance.

The meeting, however, was not molested, and employees of the Gadsden plants testified to the fact that both races mingled in the plants in bath houses and other places, and that never before had the city ordinance against interracial gatherings been invoked before.

Attorneys Beddow and Cowherd who defended the 29 prisoners reported that it was unlikely the ordinance would be invoked against union members again, and that union activities would continue until the Gadsden plants were organized.

ALABAMA LOSES A BATTLE

The dismissal of charges against four Negro members of the Steel Workers Organizing Committee and twenty-five white fellow-workers who were arrested in Gadsden, Ala. for violation of a city ordinance forbidding the assembly of races together, is a signaled victory for the uncompromising leaders of the C.I.O.

Defender 3-23-40 Chicago Sec

The occasion of the arrests was a meeting for the purpose of organizing the workers of a subsidiary company of the Republic Steel which employs thousands of black men throughout the industrial area of Alabama. Gadsden which is notorious for its hostility to organized labor, has been successful heretofore in defeating attempts to unionize its large steel plants. A few years ago it figured prominently in Senate investigations of violations of civil rights, especially among labor organizers.

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The presence of seventy-six black workers at the protest meeting so infuriated Gadsden authorities that the old city ordinance was thereupon invoked against the workers in attendance. Fortunately the leadership of the Alabama C.I.O. had anticipated such a move and had armed itself with sufficient legal batteries to fight the issue. Alabama for once saw that such a case if given prominence and carried before the public at large might further blacken the name of the state. The charges against the steel workers were dismissed not because Gadsden had a change of heart, but because the local authorities were confronted for the first time with the challenge of a united labor bent on the application of its civil rights and on the exercise of its civil liberties. Such a union, such a determination may ultimately mean the bleaching of the color line and the eventual salvation of America. For if race prejudice can be broken in the south—the stronghold of racial and religious bigotry—it will not long last elsewhere.

Birmingham, Ala. Digest
May 23. 1940

Negro Organizer Rebuked By One Of His Race

BY HARTFORD KNIGHT
District Representative, District 20.
United Mine Workers of America
Birmingham, Ala.
May 13, 1940.

Editor
The Birmingham World
Birmingham, Ala.
Dear Sir:

It is very unfortunate that Mr. Maiden, the AFL organizer, has become so troubled about the Negro and the CIO. I am sure the organizer is not speaking the sentiment of his people, not even himself, when he says the Negro will not follow the CIO, but is being used as a decoy in trying to get workers into an organization that forces the Negro to pay the same taxation as other members, but receives little or no representation, and put into a class to himself. In this same meeting that he referred to, a Colored vice-president was elected for the Colored division of the Sheffield and Tuscumbia district. If the AFL Organization is so liberal to the Negro, why this division in their ranks?

The organizer is right when he says the Negro will not follow Mr. Lewis, for the CIO organization is not a one-man organization, but they are following the policies outlined by white and Colored delegates meeting in convention halls together and working out a sensible program for the workers of this nation. The Negro race has a part in the CIO that is growing in importance, and it is because of this that they are interested in the CIO instead of the AFL. which they know is on its way out, and has up to now made no effort to do anything for their race.

I regret to see one of my people become an ignominy to his race by allowing himself to be fed on flapdoodle by other races. The Negro is very fortunate to have the privilege of following leaders that have turned their faces to the cabin where men are being lashed and cruelly maimed and killed.

How Alabama Cops Tell Who The Reds Are

Daily Worker

Birmingham Definition Is Anybody Demanding Their Legal Rights

7-15-40

(Special to the Daily Worker)

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"Instead he sets himself to deny liberty and equal protection of the law to a minority group. That such repressive measures, if allowed to succeed, never stop with the suppression of the Communists is proved by the experience of Germany and Italy and—just yesterday—of France as well. Mr. Connor himself has given sufficient indication of this by his definition of a 'Communist' as anyone 'who stands on his constitutional rights.' Mr. Connor's attitude, as revealed in his actions toward me and his statement to the POST, is un-American and undermines American democracy from within. It deserves the condemnation of every liberty-loving citizen."

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White Drivers Refused to Cross Picket Line; Joined Walkout

8-12-40

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Charleston, S. C. News & Courier
August 11, 1940

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Daily Worker
8-13-40
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LABOR- 1940
UNIONS STRIKES ETC.

ALABAMA

WHITES SUPPORT NEGRO WORKERS IN UNION FIGHT

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Aug. 22 (Special)—With the unanimous support of more than 600 white employes who were members of affiliated unions, the 105 colored men composing the maintenance forces of the Birmingham Electric Company won their fight for an increase in wages and better working conditions, after a strike lasting for less than 48 hours, that completely tied up the city transportation system which includes both street cars and motor busses, during the past week-end.

The contract between the Negro workers of the Maintenance Men's Union and the Company, that ended the strike, provides for a wage increase of three and a half cents an hour, seniority control, and makes the union exclusive bargaining agent, as well as requiring all new employes of the Maintenance Division to join the local union organization. Demands for indicated changes in working conditions were granted. The wage increase obtained will amount to around $10,000 a year, exclusive of such amounts as may be paid out under the proviso that time and a half is to be paid for all overtime work.

MOTORMEN, CONDUCTORS STOPPED BY PICKETS

When the dead line set for the calling of the strike, unless company officials agreed to consider and act upon the demands of the union members, finally arrived, any lingering doubt of its complete effectiveness vanished when, at 2 a. m., Saturday, upward of 700 street car motormen and conductors, and motor bus drivers refused to attempt to pass through picket lines that had been thrown by the Negro maintenance men around the car barn and bus garage. Company called, and the strike was declared officials and representatives quickly got together. A conference was ended at 5:15 p. m., Sunday.

The white union men who cooperated one hundred per cent are members of the Central Amalgamated Association of Street Electric Railway and Motor Coach Employes.

Mobile, Ala., Forum Sun, Aug. 23, 1940-

UNITY WINS CAR STRIKE IN THE STATE

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. —A stirring demonstration of labor unity in this State this week had won a two-day strike of the city transportation system.

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A picket line was thrown around the street car barn at 2 A.M. on the first day of the strike. The white motormen and conductors, although not involved in the contract negotiations, unanimously refused to go to work across the picket line. The motormen and conductors are members of the same union which called the strike of maintenance workers. By their spontaneous support of the strike, they gave a lesson to the craft-minded top leaders of the AFL, as to both the effectiveness of industrial unionism, and of Negro and white labor solidarity.

George Patterson, Jr., white attorney for the union said the strike was called when the company refused a union offer to arbitrate three points on which agreement had not been arrived at in contract negotiations: closed shop, wages and seniority rights.

LABOR * 1940
UNIONS-ST KES ETC.

Hillman's Appointees Under Fire as Laundry Workers Protest Against Insult to Negroes, Discrimination in ACW

SEP 28 1940

By George Morris

Race discrimination has reared its head in the laundry division of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers as traditional union policies go with the wind and the Hillman leadership concentrates all it has for Roosevelt campaigning.

The issue has reached a point that a delegation of more than 100, the majority of them Negroes, came the Laundry Joint Board meeting, Thursday night, at 160 Fifth Ave., bearing a petition with many names demanding that Manager and ACW vice - president Hyman Blumberg retract his insulting remark to a Negro.

The delegation was shoved out after a "beating - around - bush" speech by Blumberg. But resentment against the disease of white chauvinism now revealed in Hillman's supervisor over the union, is mounting high.

More than half of the workers in the industry are Negro. There has been increasing apprehension in recent months among the union's membership because the Amalgamated High command is appointing fewer Negroes to responsible posts. The membership is increasingly deprived the right to elect whom they want to leadership.

The upshot came Sept. 16 when Hyman Blumberg, declared Miss Charlotte Adelmond, elected Negro business agent of Local 327, suspended for four weeks. This came after she informed him that she can handle her work without supervision and orders by an appointee named Louis Stark.

In the evening of that day Blumberg placed his suspension before the board of directors which he dominates, and obtained approval of it. This came in face of protests from a delegation of about 30 headed by George Warfield, Negro and a shop chairman. Behind the protest of that delegation was the growing dissatisfaction with the general policy of pushing out Negroes from responsible posts.

It was when Warfield was refused the floor that he asked Blumberg "what do you think you are a dictator or Simon Legree."

"Before you can speak to me," shot back Blumberg, according to those present and the Amsterdam News, "you'll have to wash your face seven times."

From then on the fight was wide open. It reached the shops and all the nine locals of the Joint Board which total a membership of over 35,000. Hundreds signed a petition. Momentum was developing for a mass delegation to the next meeting of the Joint Board to bring the whole business to a showdown. In the meantime, formal charges were presented against Blumberg before the union's executive board and a demand was raised that he be suspended for six months without pay while Miss Adelmond should be reinstated.

1,000 MAY ATTEND

So wide was the protest that even the intervention of Commissioner Sidney Hillman of the National Defense Council, was required, it was learned. In an attempt to dam this flood of protest, Miss Adelmond was reinstated last Monday — only a week after her suspension. But the gesture was too late.

Indications pointed to a "delegation" of 1,000 for last Thursday's meeting—only for the act of Noah Walter, Negro assistant manager of the Joint Board, who called up the Negro leaders of many shops at the last minute informing them that the demonstartion was "called off." Walter is referred to by many Negro members as a "paid stooge for Hillman." He was described as "quiet as a dove" at Thursday's meeting when the large delegation wrangled with Blumberg on the issue.

It was Walter whom the Hillmanites put forward for a bombastic red-baiting speech at the Rochester CIO convention, in defense of their strong-arm and steamroller tactics. As in the situation generally, only two or three Negroes of Walter's stripe, were in the delegation representing the laundry workers. All the rest were white whom the Hillmanites apparently find more trustful for their policies.

Blumberg delivered a long speech in reply to the petition presented Thursday, pleading that he always has been a "friend" of the Negroes, and how sorry he was that such a situation developed. But he refused to apologize for the insult.

WANTS IT "DROPPED"

When Warfield sought the floor to reply to him, Blumberg said he wants no discussion on the matter and wants it "dropped." He said he was sorry the story found its way into the Amsterdam News, Negro weekly of Harlem, but asked that nothing more be said of the matter anywhere.

The delegation was dismissed from the room. Outside, the hundred-odd promised that they'll drop nothing. There is talk of raising the whole matter at the membership meeting of Local 327 of which Miss Adelmond is member.

In its story, the current issue of the Amsterdam News charges that in all but two of the union's six employment offices, "Negroes are the last to be considered."

One union official informed the Daily Worker that there is a understanding with the companies that if they call up for "white help" they are sent only whites. Some of the largest firms follow an "all-white" policy. But the union which was once called progressive is today too busy campaigning for Roosevelt and his "all aid short of war" policy to bother fighting the race discrimination policy of the employers.

Senate Bans Civil Service Photographs

WASHINGTON

Major reforms in the Federal civil service were appproved by the Senate last Thursday when it adopted two amendments directed toward eliminating racial discrimination in the merit system.

One amendment offered by Senator Minton Sherman, Democrat, of Indiana, would prohibit the use of photographs as a means of identification in civil service examinations and substitute the use of fingerprints.

Forbids Jim Crow

The other amendment offered by Senator Matthew M. Neely Democrat, of West Virginia, forbids discrimination against any person, or with respect to the position held by any person on account of race, creed or color, in carrying out the provisions of the Ramspect bill extending the classified civil service and the provisions of the classification act of 1923 classifying civilian positions under the executive departments and fixing the rate of compensation of persons holding those jobs.

The two amendments coupled together, it is believed will have a beneficial effect in wiping out discrimination against colored persons in appointments in the classified civil service. By the substitution of fingerprints as a means of identification appointment officers will be unable to tell the racial identity of persons certified for vacancies by the Civil Service Commission.

Both Parties Helped

Edgar G. Brown, president of the United Government Employees, which for four years has led the fight against the photograph system, said, in a statement to the AFRO, that credit was due both Republican and Democratic Senators, among whom he named:

REPUBLICANS—Senators Lynn J. Frazier, North Dakota; W. W. Barbour, New Jersey; Wallace H. White, Jr., Maine; Charles L. McNary, Oregon;

DEMOCRATS—Senators James M. Mead, New York; Matthew M. Neely, West Virginia; W. J. Bulow, South Dakota; Carl A. Hatch, New Mexico; Walter F. George, Georgia; Sherman Minton, Indiana, Albert W. Barkley, Kentucky.

Mr. Brown also expressed appreciation for the efforts of the National Alliance of Postal Employees and its welfare director, G. N. T. Gray, of Washington.

Likely Kept in

If the two amendments are kept in the bill in conference, and it is likely they will be, the Neely amendment will operate to protect colored persons who may be given probationary appointments. Chief clerks and other administrative officials would be barred from ending the services of such persons on account of race or color at the end of their probationary period.

There was very little debate

LABOR- 1940
UNION, STRIKES, ETC.

AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION

PROF. ROSS'S NEW JOB

In naming Professor Edward Alsworth Ross to succeed Dr. Harry F. Ward as chairman, the American Civil Liberties Union serves notice that it does not intend to let up in its fight for American rights and liberties, including the rights and liberties of those with whom most of the Union's members disagree. Dr. Ross has been in many battles. At 73 he is still capable of more.

The Union stirred up a rumpus a few weeks ago when it ruled that Communists, Fascists and others who disbelieved in civil rights should not hold any of its offices. Some respected liberals dissented. Yet the decision, in retrospect as at the time, seems sound. Few of us would trust the defense of our rights to individuals or organizations that did not hold such rights absolute. The Civil Liberties Union, as constituted, does an admirable job. More power to Dr. Ross and his colleagues.

A. F. of L. Snubs Randolph's Plea for Racial Tolerance: Remains Lily-White

Amsterdam News - New York, N.Y.
DEC 7 1940

New Orleans, La.—Overtures made by the leaders of the A. F. of L. relative to a democratic rejuvenation of craft unions and their promise to integrate Negroes into the adminstrative set-up of the national body, proved to be camoflage after the election of national officers at the sixtieth annual confab held here for the past two weeks.

Negroes were conspicuously out of the picture during the sessions, excepting a plea made by Delegate A. Philip Randolph in behalf of several resolutions that were presented on behalf of Negro workers in the A. F. of L and even Randolph, President of tre Brotherhood if Sleeping Car Porters, was not selected to the roster of some fifteen vice-presidents, each of whom is head of some union affiliated with the A. F. of L.

The resolution that would terminate lily-white crafts was rejected. The convention refused to give a conciliating ear to Randolph's plea for abolition of racial discrimination.

Randolph seemed in earnest, but when the convention ignored his pleas for abolition of racial discrimination, circumvented the demands of the Negro laborer, soft-soaped the idea of unbiased integration of Negroes into the Lily-white crafts and gave deaf ear to democratic labor initiative, Randolph said: "I'm still with the American Federation of Labor."

Although the convention refused to adopt a resolution that would condemn the exclusion of Negroes from participating in the write primaries in the South, it unanimously adopted a resolution to abolish Poll Tax in eight Southern States.

The convention also refused a resolution endorsing the Anti-Lynch Bill on the grounds that amendments already made to the measure in the Senate would be objectionable to labor.

Another resolution favoring the integration of Negroes into the Armed forces of the United States was refused on the suggestion of the executive committee, because it specifically referred to military service the matter, the committee said, should be left in the hands of military authorities unless evidence of discrimination should appear.

AFL CONVENTION TURNS THUMBS DOWN ON NEGROES

DEC 7 1940

A PLEA TO STAMP OUT jim crowism within its ranks was quietly tabled by the American Federation of Labor at its annual convention in New Orleans last week. A. Philip Randolph, head of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, proposed the creation of an inter-racial committee to tackle the jim crow problem in AFL unions. In an eloquent address of 40 minutes, Mr. Randolph told the story of his people.

New York Age

How the railroad unions refused to admit Negroes or allow them to bargain; how in Tampa AFL leaders worked with the Ku Klux Klan to terrorize Negroes who had protested being fired from a shipyard when the AFL signed a closed shop contract; how Negroes are denied jobs in defense industries because they can't get union cards.

New York, N.Y.

"There are millions of us who should be with you but many of your unions won't let us in. How can I explain that to my people? How can I explain why a Negro does not have the right to join a union of his own choosing? We are talking here about democracy but the trade unions have taken over the capitalistic and imperialistic idea of inferior races, and they have put that idea into the trade union movement. Do the delegates have the courage to face the issue?"

Apparently they didn't for after Mr. Randolph sat down, no one else spoke and the Resolutions Committee, headed by First Vice President Matthew Woll, quietly sidestepped the request with a few kind words.

One can well understand why there remains strife in the trade union movement when its leaders are afraid to face such issues as outlawing of labor racketeers and the abolition of jim crowism within its ranks. William Green talks about democracy but does nothing to make this ideal real within his own organization. He would do well to emulate the example set by the C. I. O.

Negro Freight-Handlers, Express And Station Employees Defy AFL Jim Crow Rule, Form Own Council

SEP 28 1940

PHILADELPHIA, Pa.—Defiantly announcing that they "will not be shunted into a powerless, jim-crow organization", colored freight handlers, express and station employees throughout the country have notified William Green, A. F. of L. head, that they will not abide by his order to join an "auxiliary" of a white brotherhood.

In rejecting Green's order to turn in their individual charters as federal union locals and join the "auxiliary" as a subordinate of the lily-white Brotherhood of Railway Clerks, it was pointed out that members of the proposed organization would be shorn of all voting privilege in the A. F. of L. since they cannot even send representatives to the grand lodge of the white group.

Fighting the move to swing jurisdiction of their activities under the BRC, delegates from the federal union locals met in Cincinnati recently and formed the National Council of Freight Handlers, Express and Station Employees, an organization consisting of fifty locals with close to 2000 members scattered throughout the country.

In registering their protest, members of the Council reminded Green that the right to determine who shall be their representative is guaranteed under the Railroad Labor Act and since no colored workers were consulted in the matter, formulating the auxiliary under the BRC without their consent was the first step in the wrong direction.

Membership in the BRC is denied them solely on the basis of race, the colored group pointed out, and under no condition will they agree to be supervised by a prejudiced body, or contribute their taxes to the coffers of an organization which will not grant them voting power in the legislative meetings.

When word was first received that the clerks had asked jurisdiction over the colored locals, a committee called on Green to voice objection. He assured them that they would not be forced to accept the agreement.

Shortly afterward, however, Green sent an "official" notice informing them of his decision and ordering them to forward their charters, supplies, and records to the home office. Rules and regulations for the auxiliary followed in short order.

Form Own Brotherhood

Instead of complying, the colored workers formed their own brotherhood and forwarded application for a charter. Their reply to Green was, in effect, either to recognize their organization as a national brotherhood or admit them to full-fledged membership in the BRC.

SEP 21 1940

Headquarters of the Council are located in Cincinnati. National officers are: Arthur Williams, Cincinnati, president; J. W. McCall, Birmingham, Ala., executive vice-president; Alvin C. White, Philadelphia, eastern vice-pres.; Chester Keller, Chicago, western vice-president; S. W. Hylton, Roanoke, Va., S. Eastern vice-president; Willie Foster, New Orleans, La., S. Western vice-president; Herbert Bane, Cincinnati, secretary; and J. L. Orr, Louiseville, Ky., treasurer.

Federation Would Oust Lemus' Union

AFL Doesn't Want Brotherhood of Dining Car Employees on Atlantic Coast Line.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 22 (ANP)—Determined efforts on the part of American Federation of Labor, Local 495, are being made by officials of that organization to oust from the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad the Union of Brotherhood of Dining Car Employes, of which Rienzi B. Lemus is the president.

However, Lemus is making a strong and determined defense of his position, appealing to the men who are members of his organization, calling attention to many shortcomings of the A. F. of L., whereby Negroes have suffered in particular.

Under the administration of Lemus, employes of the Coast Line enjoy the highest rates of pay given any dining car employes and have done so since the founding of the brotherhood.

As one of the employes of the railroad involved says, and he has 23 years of service to his credit on the road, "I don't care what you other guys do, Lemus has seen to it that I get more money and I am sticking with him through the fight."

Seniority rules regulate the employment of dining car workers, but under the contract Negroes work on the Seaboard Air Line, another Southern trunk line, nobody who had not been five years in the service could accumulate seniority rights after reaching 32 years of age, and anybody who was that young on entering the service, remains on the extra list. He never acquires any seniority.

Negro Freight Handlers Oppose A. F. Of L. Plan

NOV 14 1940

CINCINNATI—An appeal to William Green's ruling that colored freight handlers, express and baggagemen must join a segregated "auxiliary" of the lily white Brotherhood of Railway Clerks will be taken before the A. F. of L. Convention which meets next Monday, November 18, in New Orleans.

The colored workers, who have organized the National Council of freight handlers, Express and Station Employees, in an effort to fight the move to swing jurisdiction of their activities under the BRC, contend the auxiliary is contrary to democratic principles.

They point out that membership in such an organization would mean loss of voting privilege in the A. F. of L. since they—under the proposed set-up—cannot even send representatives to the grand lodge of the white brotherhood although they would contribute to its coffers.

——A Colored Judge——

NAACP SECRETARY TELLS GREEN TO ACT, NOT TALK

White Chides A.F. of L. Head on Hypocritical Attitude Toward Race

NEW YORK — Chiding William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor for failing to back up his pronouncements against racial intolerance with action, Walter White told several hundred delegates attending the fifteenth annual convention dinner of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters at Mecca Temple here Monday, September 16, that "I will be more impressed by Mr. Green's speeches when he 'expresses' himself against racial intolerance in deeds as well as in words."

The NAACP secretary was referring to a speech made by the A.F. of L. president before the convention at Salem M.E. Church, 129th Street and Seventh Avenue earlier in the week, when Green said: "So long as I can express myself, I shall fight against racial intolerance and hatred in America."

"I listened with amusement yesterday to William Green," he said, "telling you that 'So long as I can express mysif I shall fight against racial intolerance and hatred in America,' and his statement that the A.F. of L. is leading the way against racial hatreds and prejudices here similar to those that have caused the European war.

Cites Florida Case

"In Tampa, Fla., five hundred skilled Negro shipyards' workers are walking the streets today because the boilermakers and other A.F. of L. unions which bar Negroes from membership by constitutional provisions, secured a closed-shop contract with the Tampa Shipbuilding and Drydock Company which is building ships for the United States Maritime Commission. We have appealed repeatedly to Mr. Green over a period of more than a year to act in this situation but, to date, completely without results.

"In Los Angeles, trained Negro aviation mechanics have for many months been trying to get employment in airplane plants which are filling orders for the United States Army and Navy. Recently the Boeing plant agreed to accept Negroes if they were members of the mechanics union but this union, too, bars Negroes from membership, as the Boeing plant, I suspect, knew.

"Thus the Negro worker has his life-blood squeezed out between the upper and nether millstones of employer and labor union discrimination. As for myseelf I will be more impressed by Mr. Green's speeches when he 'expresses' himself against racial intolerance in deeds as well as in words."

The NAACP secretary drew a rearing picture of the discrimination against Negroes in National Defense industries and the Army and Navy, the six lynchings thus far in 1940, terrorizing Negroes who seek their Constitutional right to vote in Tennessee and Texas.

"These facts," he said, "make it increasingly difficult for Negroes to respond to pleas to "Save Democracy.' That is why the deliberations of the Brotherhood at this time are tremendously important. We have got to continue the fight not only in our own behalf but to save America from its own blindness and bigotry."

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, Mayor Fiorello LaGuardia, and A. Philip Randolph were among the prominent persons who spoke at the dinner. Mr. Green was not present.

D. C. Poultry Workers, Fish Handlers, May Form Solid A. F. of L. Labor Block

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa. OCT 5 1940

WASHINGTON, D. C., Oct. 3—Recent activity in labor circles here reveal the fact that Negro workmen engaged in the poultry and fish business, and Negro workers hold approximately seventy per cent of these jobs, are beginning to realize the great advantage in presenting a solid front while in the act of trying to maintain their jobs. In other words, the few chicken pickers and other poultry and fish handlers here, who have not seen the use in joining with their fellow workers now in the union, are now beginning to see how much more secure they would be if all the workers were together for one common cause.

However, there are a number of poultry and fish handlers who have already joined Local 393 which is controlled by the larger allied industrial union, Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen of North America, an A. F. of L. affiliate.

EVERY WORKER WANTED

Officials of the Amalgamated International Union are anxious at present to give a membership card to every poultry and fish handler in the city because of the advantages they know are in store for them, and those who are members now are enjoying to the fullest extent. The truth that no color bar exists in this union anywhere in America is one of the features which surprises most people when they learn it. Part of the oath when all members are sworn is that there is to be no bar or discrimination practised in any way by any member to any member because of race, creed or color.

The A. M. C. and B. W. of N. A. boasts of several Negro officials throughout the country. One is vice president of the largest local in the packing industry in Indianapolis; two more hold very important jobs in Kansas City, Kansas, in the Cudahy local, and there are two national organizers who work out of headquarters in Chicago.

With the above as proof as to how far a man may go regardless of his color or race, and the fact that this union does offer some very definite and adequate benefits, it is believed that the more thoughtful Negro poultry worker and fish handler will soon join to preserve his job and aid his familmore.

Heads Union Which Bars Negro Members

NOV 22 1940

NEW YORK.—A persistent rumor that George M. Harrison, grand president of the Brotherhood of Railway Clerks (A. F. of L.) is being considered by President Roosevelt for appointment as Secretary of Labor, drew protests this week from the N.A.A.C.P. and the National Urban League.

Mr. Harrison is objected to by Negroes because his union has a constitutional ban against Negro workers.

Send Telegram

In a telegram to President Roosevelt, the N.A.A.C.P. pointed out that Harrison's union not only has a constitutional ban against Negroes but maintains a jim-crow auxiliary for them which has no voice in union affairs.

The N.A.A.C.P. telegram reads:

'It is reported in the Pearson and Allen column of November that serious consideration is being given to the appointment of George M. Harrison, president of the Brotherhood of Railway Clerks to be Secretary of Labor to succeed Miss Frances Perkins.

'If reports are true National Association for the Advancement of Colored People wishes to register its protests in behalf of all Negro workers. Mr. Harrison's union has a constitutional ban against the Negro members. It maintains a jim crow auxiliary for Negroes which does not have any voice in union conventions or affairs.

'Negro Americans and their white fellow workers who are seeking full democracy in the labor movement view with justified alarm possibility of having as Secretary of Labor a man who believes that Negroes are not entitled to full membership in organized unions. This association enters the same objection to Dan Tracy, International president A. F. of L. Electrical Workers Union, whose organization also bans Negro members by a constitutional clause."

For the same reason, the National Urban League protests the consideration of Harrison as Secretary of Labor succeeding Frances Perkins.

Protest Appointment

In a letter to Urban League branches and cooperating organizations, Lester B. Granger, assistant executive secretary of the League, quoted the unfavorable record of Mr. Harrison and urged all organizations interested in the welfare of Negro workers to express to the White House their opposition to any plans for Mr. Harrison's elevation.

For years Mr. Harrison has aided the Railway Clerks and concurred in that union's membership policy which debars Negro railway employees. At present Negro railway clerks are only allowed to join 'auxiliary locals' which tax them for membership dues without even a pretense at representation in the union's policy-making bodies. It is also reported that Harrison's organization assisted by William Green, president of the A. F. of L., is attempting to force all Negro Red Caps organized under federal A. F. of L. charters to disband their organizations, turn their finances over to the Brotherhood of Railway Clerks, and accept membership in the Clerks' Jim Crow auxiliary.

Fight Six Years

After six years of fighting to establish their own federal unions without one bit of assistance from the Railway Clerks, and after obtaining contracts with several western railroads, these Negro union members were ordered by William Green, in a letter dated August 26, to comply with Harrison's demand, turn their treasuries over to him and tamely submit to a segregated and ineffective union status.

A similiar battle was lost several years ago by Negro railway stevedores of New York City, who were torn from the International Longshoremen's Association, which had accepted them as members on equal standing, and thrust into the Jim Crow auxiliary of the Railway Clerks' Union. Negro freight handlers in railway stations throughout the country have met with similar injustice.

Urban League Writes

In the letter to its local branches the National Urban League pointed out that Negroes already are burdened by one 'trade-union segregationist' in the Department of Labor, Dan Tracy, International President of the A. F. of L. Electrical Workers' Union, which has been known as actively anti-Negro for the past fifty years.

New York Negro electricians are still recalling the practices of Local No. 3 of the Electrical Workers' Union, which hounded Negro workers out of jobs as rapidly as the local was able to establish collective bargaining agreements with employers.

Civic organizations, Negro trade union leaders, and others interested in improving the status of Negro workers are being urged by the League to express to authorities in Washington their protest against any plans for appointing Harrison to the post of Secretary of Labor; and at the same time to express their approval of such preferable alternative candidates, including Sidney Hillman, Dan Tobin, president of the A. F. of L. Teamsters' Union, and Mayor F. H. LaGuardia of New York City.

BLITZKRIEG JIM CROW AT A. F. L. CONFAB

Chicago Defender
DEC 1 1940

By LEON LEWIS

NEW ORLEANS, La., Nov. 28—A blitzkrieg stand against an attempt to Jim-Crow the entertainment of Negro and white delegates to the Sixtieth Annual Convention of the A. F. of L. was taken by the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters when they refused to accept money provided by the Central Labor Committee of New Orleans to be used for the entertainment of Negro delegates.

New Orleans appropriated money and created a commission composed of Negroes who are members of local trade unions in New Orleans for the purpose of providing special entertainment for Negro delegates. They were planning to stage bus rides, smokers, teas for women relatives of the delegates and seafood suppers.

Randolph Condemns Plans

When the matter and plan was brought before the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, headed by A. Phillip Randolph and Milton P. Webster of Chicago who are delegates of the Brothers in the Convention, the body voted to condemn this plan on the grounds that it was Jim-Crowism, and contrary to the basic principles of sound trade unionism.

Mr. Randolph who has consistently expressed bitter opposition and fought from every angle discrimination and Jim-Crowism in the labor movement, advised his brothers that they insist that the check provided for this Jim-Crow entertainment be returned to the Committee of the Central Labor body, and to impress upon them that Negroes would not participate in any degree.

This policy promulgated by the Central Labor Committee is very much different from one used in the entertainment of the Atlantic and Gulf Coast Longshoreman delegates here in a convention the past summer. Negro and white delegates and officers in the Longshoreman Convention met simultaneously at Negro and white places in New Orleans, and rode together in special chartered buses.

No Jim-Crow in Longshoreman Meet

Every phase of discrimination and Jim-Crowism was left out of the Longshoreman Convention. The Longshoreman Convention situation was motivated by Paul Hortman, recent resigned president of the local Longshoreman Association, and it was he who insisted that there be no discriminatory practices against Negroes

A.F. of L. In Attack On Jim-Crow

Denounces Race Discrimination In Trade Unions

NEW YORK—(S N S)—Condemnation of discrimination barring any person of civil and political rights because of their race or color was expressed by the 1939 convention of the American Federation of Labor at Cincinnati, Ohio.

The subject of racial discrimination was brought to the attention of the convention in a resolution introduced by Delegates A. Philip Randolph and Milton P. Webster of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters. The resolution said:

"The Negro people are the victims of varied forms of discrimination with result in limiting their rights in the purchase and use of Property.

"Race discrimination serves to deny their rights to certain types of employment, thereby creating the unfair and un-American practice known as 'white man's jobs,' regardless of merit and ability, which makes for the economic impoverishment of the Negro people.

Hotels, restaurants and theaters, colleges and universities, hospital and recreational facilities, together with railway carriers and other means of transportation and places of general public conveniences, licensed by city, State or federal agencies, refuse the Negro people accommodations on account of race or color, or humiliate and exploit and rob them by segregation or jim-crow practices that are extremely despicable and offensive to Negroes of a similar plane of culture and education of the white people that have access to such conveniences.

"The denial of these elemental and necessary privileges of accommodation to the Negro people involves their basic civil rights, guaranteed by the Federal Constitution.

"Negro blood, brain and brawn have helped to make these United States of America what they are today; and yet the Negro people are disfranchised by various unconstitutional devices, and are held in peonage."

In protesting against this discrimination, the resolution asked that the American Federation of Labor "go on record in harmony with its past declarations for the abolition of all forms of discrimination on account of race or color, and call upon the Executive Council, State and City bodies, as well as federal locals, national and international unions and the various departments to express their definite moral opposition to this sinister and destructive practice of race discrimination, and to support the fight for legislation which purports to secure for the Negro people their civil and political rights."

In its report on the resolution the Convention Committee on Resolutions submitted the following declaration which the convention unanimously adopted:

"As a substitute for the resolution, your committee recommends that this convention reaffirm its past declarations for the abolition of all forms or discrimination on account of race or color, and call upon the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor, State and City Central Bodies, as well as Federal Local Unions, National and International Unions, and the various Departments of the American Federation of Labor, to express their definite moral opposition to the destructive practice of race discrimination, and to support legislation intended to secure for the Negro people full civil and political rights."

Resolutions Passed At Convention

Randolph, Webster Bring Matter To Floor

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Both Races Fighting For Same Cause, AFL Is Told

"Both races are fighting together for the same cause," declared Cornelius Maiden, prominent colored labor organizer, in his address Saturday afternoon at the City Auditorium to the Southern Labor Conference.

The conference is under the auspices of the state federations of labor of ten southern states and the organization department of the American Federation of Labor. Another session will be held at the Auditorium today.

Mr. Maiden the only colored man to address the audience Saturday, is the vice president-at-large of the Alabama State Federation of Labor. He also tours the United States and Canada as a representative of the A. F. of L.

PRAISES A. F. OF L.

Maiden praised the A. F. of L., saying that the organization always has stood for free speech and religious worship.

Declaring that the Negro is an important part of the labor group, the speaker said, "the colored man has always been a laborer. . . we have worked in the fields to feed and clothe the world."

Close to 250 colored delegates are here attending the conference. They occupied the south side of the main floor of the auditorium during the Saturday sessions.

The largest colored delegation came from Alabama, while Georgia and the Carolinas sent sizeable groups. Virginia also is responsible for a large delegation.

MUSICAL UNIT APPEARS

A musical aggregation from Birmingham thrilled the crowd at both Saturday sessions with quartet and choir selections. The singers are members of the Hod Carriers' union in the Magic City. They will sing again this morning. Practically all of the delegates enjoyed the banquet given in their honor Saturday night at the Butler Street YMCA. The Negro delegates heard President William Green's address by means of radio. The talk was broadcast through Radio Station WSB from the Ansley Hotel where the white delegation were feted.

In his address, President Green said, "We seek to build up and never tear down; to construct rather than destroy; to deal with realities rather than theories

"The chief purpose of this organization is to obtain by peaceful collective bargaining higher wages, shorter hours and better working condition for the workers.

RAPS CENTRALIZATION

"There has been a tendency in our nation to place ever increasing authority and power in the central government, in Washington. That, we believe, is a dangerous tendency. Over-centralization of governments results in dictatorship. We have seen how dictatorship works out in Europe. We have the lessons of Soviet Russia and Nazi Germany fresh in our minds We want nothing like that here The American Federation of Labor has faith in democracy and democratic processes.

Purpose of the conference is for co-ordinating all organizing activities in the South; co-ordinating all legislative activities in the South, and promoting trade unions and management co-operation in Southern industry.

Edward Keating, white, editor of the Labor paper, in an interesting address condemned policies practiced by some Southern states in keping individuals from voting. He said:

"Every American has the right to vote unless he is in jail."

LEADERS HERE

George Benjamin, colored organizer for the A. F. of L. in the state of North Carolina; David Alston, vice president of the Virginia Federation of Labor; Cleveland Woolfe, vice-president of the Mobile Longshoremen; R. F. Finkley, secretary-treasurer of the same organization; Leonard O. Morgan, president of the tobacco workers, Petersburg, Virginia; Paul Hartman, sixteenth vice president of the International Longshoremen's Association; Bernard Green of Birmingham; Paul Dumas of Birmingham; Arthur Hall, James B. Harris, of Virginia, and Bernard Robinson, of Tuskegee, are just a few of the prominent colored delegates here for the conference.

The Journal of Labor, A. F. of L. newspaper printed here carried stories Saturday concerning the activities of Mr. Maiden and Mrs. Mexico Hembre, president of the Colored teachers' Union in Fulton County.

Nearly every colored delegate to the conference crowded the lecture room of the Butler Street Y. M.C.A. Saturday night and listened to timely talks and addresses delivered by J. C. McMorries, executive secretary of the Atlanta Urban League; Prof. Hollis F. Price, of Tuskegee, and Prof. Doxey A. Wilkinson, of Howard University.

The delegates took this opportunity to air their own grievances. A committee was appointed to draw up a resolution urging the appointment of more colored organizers by the A. F. of L.

"The Negro's hope is in the labor movement," Mr. McMorries told his audience.

Prof. Wilkinson urged his hearers to seek economic salvation through labor unions.

There were several other interesting talks by delegates.

After the discussion, the group retired to the YMCA dining room where a banquet was held.

Organizer Maiden presided over the night session.

Leaders At AFL Meeting

Cornelius Maiden, prominent A. F. of L. organizer and vice-president-at-large of the Alabama State Federation of Labor, is shown at left discussing a labor paper with J. C. McMorries, executive secretary of the Atlanta Urban League. Mr. Maiden addressed the American Federation of Labor Conference Saturday at City Auditorium. (SNS PHOTO)

Maiden To Set Up AFL Units In Tenn., Illinois, Alabama

Cornelius Maiden, international organizer for the American Federation of Labor, and vice-president-at-large of the Alabama State Federation of Labor, who was one of the key men at the Southern Labor Conference held during the weekend, revealed Monday that he had been assigned the task of setting up organizations in Tennessee, Illinois, and Alabama.

Fourteen states had sought Mr Maiden for organization work. He is the only colored full-time organizer in the A. F. of L. ranks.

TO CONDUCT MASS MEET

He leaves Atlanta either late tonight or early tomorrow morning for Birmingham where he will conduct a mass meeting this week. More than 400 colored workers will attend the meeting.

Mr. Maiden met with 200 other key figures Monday at the local A. F. of L. headquarters, at which time plans were laid for the launching of a great membership campaign. The federations has set as its goal 500,000 new members in the South this year.

Mr. Maiden will organize most of the colored workers.

AS I SEE IT

By C. W. RICE

Walter White's Attack On William Green And The AFL Shows I Was Right In Warning Negro Workers To Be Wary Of Placing Their Hope In Labor Unions For Job Security

OCT 5 1940

When Walter White, dynamic secretary of the National Asociation for the Advancement of Colored People, called upon William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, recently in a speech to the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters at Washington to "practice what you preach," and said to the convention that Negro workers were losing jobs through the union movement, it was what I have been trying to tell the Negro workers, both from the platform and through the press for several years.

At the National Conference of the NAACP at Detroit in 1937 when the controversial question as to what important topic before that convention, I said:

Negro workers should be very cautions in acepting both the CIO and AFL as their salvation notwithstanding the fact that thousands of Negro workers are overworked, underpaid and have no redress in their cause." I gave for the reason that **"Many Negroes were holding good jobs with good pay and had been all during the depression and white work had resorted to nearly every type of tactic to get them off their jobs even to the boycotting of firms employing Negroes and ambushing workers to and from their jobs."**

In my speech I pointed out that "While there are some ruthless and gro workers, on the other hand white chiseling employers who exploit Negro workers to come into organized workers organized to get the Nelabor was due to the split in the ranks of labor and both factions, the AFL and the CIO, were struggling for power; that the negro was being used generally to get enough votes to place unions in control of the hiring instead of the employer; that this would be an easy way to eliminate Negroes."

My address, which was widely publicized, brought much criticism since it was a general opinion of Negro leaders that labor unions meant to be fair to all workers. I answered the criticism "A leopard can not change its spots."

500 Skilled Workers Lost Jobs At Florida

Walter White told the Washington convention that in Tampa, Fla., **500 skilled Negro shipyard workers were walking the streets today because the boilermakers union and other unions which discriminate against Negroes by constitutional provision had secured a closed shop contract with the Tampa Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Company which is building ships for the United States Marine Commission...**

Probably if time had permitted, Mr. White could have told that body that prior to the new labor movement put on by the New Deal to help the "forgotten" man, these Negro workers in Florida were getting along fairly well; that they were holding their jobs because they were capable and preferred by their employer. They were in the great majority and some organizer came along and told them they must organize for job security. No doubt they were told it would not be safe to join anything except the "bona-fide" unions (CIO or AFL).

The workers could have safeguarded their jobs and received the benefits of collective bargaining had they confidence and the proper leadership in their own race as the Wagner Labor Act provides that any union should be recognized that represents the majority of the workers in a given plant without company domination or interference.

Reports are that when these Negro shipyard workers were organized they employed a white business manager for the union who re-classified the jobs and finally worked the Negroes out.

This incident at Tampa is only one of the many incidents where it is shown that the so-called "bona-fide" unions rob the Negroes of their jobs.

Sometime ago, I pointed out in this column that the unions would rob the Negro of his share of skilled work created by the National defense program.

The NAACP secretary, before the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters drew a searing picture of discrimination toward Negroes in National defense industries. "Recently, he said, "In Los Angeles trained Negro aviation mechanics have for many months been trying to get employment in airplane plants which are filling orders for the United States Army and Navy. Finally, the Boeing plant agreed to accept 100 Negroes if they were members of the mechanics union but this union, too, bars Negroes from membership, as the Boeing plant, I suspect knew.

"Thus, Mr. White said, the Negro workers has his life-blood squeezed out between the upper and nether millstones of employer or labor union discrimination."

AS I SEE IT, such information and analysis of the Negro labor situation coming from the head of the most powerful Negro organization in the world should be most encouraging and is an indication that the Negro labor problem is grave and fraught with danger of destroying the welfare of the Negro in America.

I contend that the best job security for Negroes lies in their becoming more efficeint, dependable and in his cultivation of friendship with the employing class.

Railway Workers Refuse to Form A.F.L. Jim Crow Body

Washington Tribune
Wash., D.C.

OCT 5 1940

PHILADELPHIA — Stating that they "will not be shunted into a powerless, jim-crow organization," colored freight handlers, express and station employees throughout the country have notified William Green, A.F. of L. head, that they will not abide by his order to join the "auxiliary" of a white brotherhood.

In rejecting Green's order to turn in their individual charters as federal union locals and join the "auxiliary" as a subordinate of the lily-white Brotherhood of Railway Clerks, it was pointed out that members of the proposed organization would be shorn of all voting privilege in the A.F. of L. since they cannot even send representatives to the grand lodge of the white group.

Furthermore, the colored workers contend, attempt to force this unequal set-up is contrary to the purported policy of the A.F. of L. which has consistently gone on record during national conventions as against all forms of discrimination on account of race or color.

Furthermore the move to swing jurisdiction of their activities under the BRC, delegates from the federal union locals met in Cincinnati recently and formed the National Council of Freight Handlers, Express and Station Employees, an organization consisting of 50 locals with close to 2000 members scattered throughout the country.

In registering their protest, members of the Council reminded Green that the right to determine who shall be their representative is guaranteed under the Railroad Labor Act and since no colored workers were consulted in the matter, formulating the auxiliary under the BRC without their consent was the first step in the wrong direction.

Membersship in the BRC is denied them solely on the basis of race, the colored group pointed out. and under no condition will they agree to be supervised by a prejudiced body, nor contribute their taxes to the coffers of an organization which will not grant them voting power in the legislative meetings.

Randolph Attends AFL Meet

Daily Worker
Atlanta, Ga.

NOV 21 1940

NEW ORLEANS, La.—(SNS)—The recent International Convention of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters elected A. Philip Randolph, International president and M. P. Webster, first International vice-president as delegates to the American Federation of Labor Convention, which is being held in New Orleans, November 18 to 28.

Brotherhood delegates left New York November 15 for the convention, where they will present resolutions in the interest of the abolition of the color bar and all forms of racial discrimination against Negro workers in the labor movement.

Three Seek Presidency Of N.O. Longshore Association

Courier

DEC 14 1940

NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 12—Following the wholesale ousting of the cabinet members of I.L.A. Local No. 1419, an affiliate of the A. F. of L., three candidates to-date have thrown their hats in the ring for the presidency of that Local. First to attract considerable mention, was Robert Jones, close associate of Hayward E. Augustine, labor czar of the Freight Handler's Association, Local No. 854. Jones is said to be the front man for Augustine, who is himself the front man for the I.L.A., according to longshoremen.

Another who has come into promise is Harvey Netters, former West Coast Communist organizer and erstwhile CIO enthusiast. Netters who was quoted some time ago as supporting the leadership of Augustine, for some unknown reason, has altered his plans and is trying for the coveted honor himself.

The real dark horse in the race, however, is Bat Scott. Scott's record of employment on the river front and his honesty with his fellowman, is said to have won many friends for him. It is also rumored that the Negro press is solidly behind Scott. Active campaigning has not yet begun. The Jones' faction is busy throwing away dodgers, requesting the aid of the workers.

AFL TURNS DOWN INTERRACE BODY; THINKS IT NOT NEEDED

Chicago Ill. Defender

DEC 3 1940

By LEON LEWIS

A resolution presented to the AFL Convention in session here condemning the color bar and rituals of all trade unions and all forms of prejudice in the labor movement based on race and color, and to instruct President William Greene in consultation with the executive council to appoint an interracial committee of six three Negroes and three whites, which would investigate cases of discrimination by trade unions against workers by barring from ment on jobs on account of color, was rejected when brought to the floor of the convention.

The resolution was drafted by A. Philip Randolph and Milton P. Webster, de egates of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters. Discussion of the resolution on its presentation to the convention supported the spirit, and condemned the practice of discrimination within the labor movement.

The convention proper did not term it necessary, however, to assertedly commit itself on taking direct action against discrimination of trade unions against Negroes.

Lily White Unions Objectors

Principal objection to the adoption of this resolution came from delegates representing the various trade unions from which Negroes have been barred. The convention yielded to the wishes of those delegates for the continuance of their barring of Negroes from membership into craft unions affiliated with the AFL.

The convention adopted the resolution requesting the appointment of Negro organizers as a part of the staff of the AFL to work out of the headquarters in Washington, D. C.

DEC 3 1940

Other Resolutions Considered

Convention refused to adopt a resolution that would condemn the exclusion of Negroes from participating in the white primaries in the South, but unanimously adopted a resolution to abolish Poll Tax in eight Southern states.

The convention also refused a resolution endorsing the anti-lynch bill on the grounds that amendments already made to the measure in the Senate would be objectional to labor. Another resolution favoring the integration of Negroes into the armed forces of the United States was refused on the suggestion of the executive committee, and since it specifically referred to military service the matter should be left into the hands of military forces, unless evidence of discrimination should appear.

A. F. OF L. PLACES ITS STAMP OF APPROVAL ON DISCRIMINATION

Courier

Pittsburgh Pa.

DEC 7 1940

By LEON LEWIS
(Special to The Courier)

NEW ORLEANS, La., Dec. 5.—The American Federation of Labor has placed its official stamp of approval on discrimination!

Meeting here in annual convention, the delegates listened in thunderous silence as A. Philip Randolph and Milton L. Webster, representing the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, presented a resolution which was destined to abolish the color line.

The resolution, as presented, condemned the color bar and rituals of all trade unions and all forms of prejudice in the labor movement based on race and color.

The resolution further requested an Interracial Committee, composed of six members, three colored and three white, to investigate cases of discrimination by trade unions against workers, by barring workers from memberships or from employment on jobs on account of their color.

Discussion of the resolution supported the spirit and condemned the practice of discrimination, but the convention proper did not term is necessary to assertedly commit itself on taking direct action against discrimination of trade unions against Negroes.

Principal objection to the adoption of this resolution came from delegates representing the various trade unions from which Negroes have been barred.

The convention yielded to the wishes of these delegates for the continuance of their barring of Negroes from membership into craft unions affiliated with the A. F. of L.

Courier

The resolution requesting the appointment of Negro organizers as a part of the staff of the A. F. of L., to work out of headquarters at Washington, D. C., was adopted.

Defeat of the Interracial Committee resolution brought a cloud of discouragement within the ranks of Negro "crafters," whose hopes for crashing craft union discrimination, had been stymied.

The convention also refused to adopt a resolution condemning the exclusion of Negroes from participating in the white primaries in the South, but unanimously adopted a resolution to abolish the poll tax in eight southern states.

The convention further refused a resolution endorsing the anti-lynching bill, on the grounds that amendments already made to the measure in the Senate would be objectional to labor.

Pittsburgh Pa.

Another resolution favoring integration of Negroes into the armed forces of the United States was refused on the suggestion of the Executive Committee.

Mr. Randolph, speaking in behalf of this resolution, cited several instances of discrimination against Negroes in the Army and Navy that had already been reported to Washington.

DEC 7 1940

The convention also rejected the resolution condemning white primaries in the South, asserting that this matter is one of state regulation and legislation.

Showdown Is Near In E. St. Louis Fight For Negro Job Rights

Picketing to Start If Conference Fails; Local A. F. of L. Leader Pledges Aid in Battle To Stop Disccrimination

SEP 21 1940

(Special to the Daily Worker)

E. ST. LOUIS, Ill., Sept. 20.—East St. Louis Negro leaders today looked forward to a showdown with leaders of the Retail Merchants Association on the question of jobs for Negroes. Daily Worker

Picketing and boycotting will be carried on by the Young Mens Civic Club, directing the job drive, if a forthcoming conference between club and association leaders does not result in the unemployment of more Negro workers. A similar club in St. Louis, just across the Mississippi River, was able in a recent campaign to secure jobs for Negroes.

Robert Clayton, local AFL official, pledged his support to the East St. Louis campaign at a recent meeting after President Greenburg of the Association had told the Negroes present that "picketing" and "boycotting" were the mark of "fifth columnists." Another white citizen, Frank Lord, also arose and announced his support of the drive.

Although 20 per cent of the city's 90,000 population is Negro, stores in predominantly Negro neighborhood generally refuse to hire Negro workers. The Young Civic Club has conducted a series of picket lines around these "jim crow" stores even after police had been called to disperse one group of pickets.

A. F. OF L. HEAD Defender TOLD HIS ORDER Chicago Ill. MEANS NOTHING

SEP 28 1940

Say Attempt To Force Unequal Setup Is Contrary to Rule

CINCINNATI.—(ANP) — Stating that they "will not be shunted into powerless, jim-crow organization," Negro freight handlers, express and station employes throughout the country have notified William Green, A. F. of L. head, that they will not abide by his order to join an "auxiliary" of a white brotherhood.

In rejecting Green's order to turn in their individual charters as federal union locals—and join the "auxiliary" as a subordinate of the lily-white Brotherhood of Railway Clerks, it was pointed out that members of the proposed organization would be shorn of all voting privilege in the A. F. of L. since they cannot even send representatives to the grand lodge of the white group.

Furthermore, Race workers contend any attempt to force this unequal set-up is contrary to the purported policy of the A. F. of L. which has consistently gone on record during national conventions as against all forms of discrimination on account of race or color.

Fight Move

Fighting the move to swing jurisdiction of their activities under the B.R.C., delegates from the federal union locals met in Cincinnati recently and formed the National Council of Freight Handlers, Express and Station Employes, an organization consisting of 50 locals with close to 2,000 members scattered throughout the country.

In registering their protest, members of the council remind Green that the right to determine who shall be their representative is guaranteed under the Railroad Labor act and since no colored workers were consulted in the matter, formulating the auxiliary under the B.R,C. without their consent was the first step in the wrong direction.

Membership in the B.R.C. is denied them solely on the basis of race, the Race group pointed out, and under no condition will they agree to be supervised by a prejudiced body, nor contribute their taxes to the coffers of an organization which will not grant them voting power in the legislative meetings.

Memphis, Tenn., Review
November 22, 1940

Southern AFL Leader Visits, Praises City

Barrett Says We're Doing Well in Memphis

HELPS ORGANIZATIONS

Recalls Beale Street In World War Days

James F. Barrett, Southern publicity director for the American Federation of Labor, was in Memphis this week, coming here from Atlanta to assist in organization work now going on in this city and to advise with leaders of the local labor movement.

Mr. Barrett voiced praise for Labor activities in Memphis, saying, "You've got a well-organized, smooth-working labor movement here and in that you are extremely fortunate. I believe you have the best leadership of any city in the United States. Lev Loring is giving you good, intelligent leadership and I've noticed how all business agents and other leaders are working in complete harmony."

Mr. Barrett was here to consult with leaders who are supervising the organization of unions at the Firestone Tire & Rubber Co. plant, the Continental Can Co., and the Upholsterers' Union of Burton-Dixie Corp. employes now on strike. In the latter, Mr. Barrett is well qualified to advise, for he was in the Conciliation Service of the U. S. Department of Labor throughout the World War. In that work, he had to deal with workers in war and allied industries. The A. F. of L. then, as now, was loyal to the country, Mr. Barrett said, ready and anxious to serve America.

That's Beale Street

And, speaking of the World War, Mr. Barrett recalled that one of his business trips then brought him to Memphis on a day when Beale Street really had gone wild. It was the occasion when Memphis' first contingent of Negro soldiers were leaving for camp, marching down Beale street and darktown Memphis was celebrating.

"You couldn't get a shoe shine anywhere," Mr. Barrett recalled, "nor any kind of service. Just about every colored worker was out cheering the soldiers."

Mr. Barrett has been associated with the labor movement for many years. He published labor newspapers in Asheville and Charlotte N. C., for several years before taking up his present duties as publicity director for the Southern states division of the American Federation of Labor.

Red-Baiting Aids the Enemies of the Negro

NOV 29 1940

• The cold contempt with which Wm. Green, Woll and company, dismissed a proposal against racial discrimination in the A. F. of L., was a stab in the back of the Negro people and of the A. F. of L. members. Daily Worker

In New Orleans, William Green lost no time in jamming through a resolution for "all aid" to British imperialism, but the resolution for equal rights of Negro workers in the A. F. of L. was tabled out of existence. Such is the "fight for democracy" as waged by the A. F. of L. leaders.

A. Phillip Randolph, who introduced the resolution, asked: "How can I explain that (the discriminatory policy of the A. F. of L. leaders) to my people?" The answer is: it cannot be "explained" away.

But this should serve as a lesson to Randolph and other Negro leaders who have followed a Social-Democratic policy of trying to tie their people to the Roosevelt war program. Randolph has been playing into the hands of Green, Dubinsky and Hillman by his red-baiting against peace forces and by his war-mongering support to the Administration's fake "defense" program. This toadying only strengthens the hand of the reactionary enemies of the Negro people, and does not save even Randolph or his union from callous discrimination by Green and his Wall Street masters. Green, himself, is second to none in red-baiting.

NOV 29 1940

It is precisely the war program, under the guise of "defense," which seeks to extort sacrifices from labor, the Negroes, and the common people generally. Roosevelt ditches the anti-lynch and anti-poll tax bills in favor of "defense." Green, Woll and company sidetrack the anti-discrimination resolution in favor of hysterical measures to drag the A. F. of L. workers into war.

For years the A. F. of L. leadership has been a main buttress of the capitalist lynch system through discrimination against Negro workers, denying them the right to join unions in their industry, in violation of the laws of the land. (One hundred thousand

Negro railroad workers are denied union membership.) This policy is even more dangerous now when Wall Street and its Roosevelt spokesmen are using every subterfuge to divide the workers, hoping to prevent working class unity for peace and social legislation.

Talk of "defending" democracy coming from Green and the other imperialist bootlickers in the A. F. of L. leadership is a sham. But the fight for democracy is very earnest and real for the labor movement. This is shown by the splendid progressive stand of the CIO convention which bars all racial discrimination. It is shown again in those A. F. of L. unions, where the elimination of racial bars against Negro workers has resulted in advances for all the members.

The A. F. of L. membership, which has the final word against racial discrimination, should renew the fight on this malignant cancer until it is removed from their ranks.

The AF of L's Chance To Help Negro Workers

NOV 23 1940

The American Federation of Labor in its sixtieth annual convention at New Orleans has a great chance to help Negro workers in this country. It has a great chance to help and save Democracy. Twenty or more of its affiliate unions by their by-laws, constitutions and practices deny Negroes membership and prohibit them from exercising their rights as other citizens, to make an honest living.

It was in October, 1938, during the AFL convention at Houston that A. Philip Randolph, president of the International Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, presented before the executive council of that body, resolutions asking the removal of the color bar. The resolutions were adopted, but today, they have no effect. The national organization upholds the "Democratic" right of its affiliate unions to bar Negro members. Randolph is still fighting, the N. A. A. C. P. is fighting, and various organizations and leaders are fighting the AF of L's un-Democratic labor policy in denying black workers soley on account of color, their constitutional rights.

President William Green, in his annual speech before the convention, boasted that "Americans will sacrifice their lives in defense of Democracy." What Mr. Green says has weight and is true. But we wonder why he, in his efforts to save democracy, doesn't have his affiliate unions break down their discriminatory polices and practices in order that Negroes can work in defense industries. Why can't Negroes work on housing projects and other federal and private jobs as skilled workers? We hold that Green, nor his unions, nor any organization for that matter, can boast of being Democratic and discriminate against any group or class of people on account of race. Green nor his union cannot consistently criticize the CIO for un-American activities when 20 or more AFL affiliate bodies exclude Negro workers from membership. We are not on the side of the CIO in making this observation, but what is more un-American than to deny people on account of color, the right to work for life and existence?

It is our opinion that the AF of L, in its sixtieth annual session, can do the Negro workers of the world a great justice by having its affiliate unions that bar them from membership, remove these bars from its by-laws and constitutions by making it unlawful to discriminate against race workers in any form and by ordering such unions if such practices continue to exist, expelled from the national body. Let us hope the convention fill take a new and definite step to help labor and to help the thousands of black workers of this country—To do this is to help save Democracy.

Randolph Irked By AFL Act

Watch Reaction Against AFL Snub In New Orleans

NOV 29 1940

NEW ORLEANS, La.—A threatened Southern block out of resolutions presented by the American Federation of Labor Convention here set in motion negotiations-undercover-by the CIO for taking over the International Brotherhood of Sleeping Porters' Union, an AF of L affiliate. The resolutions in question would eliminate racial discrimination from the American Federation of Labor Ranks, and were drafted by Milton P. Webster and Phillip Randolph.

These resolutions met stiff objection within the committees and all probability will draw stiff debate when brought to the floor of the convention, if they get that far. From within the Brotherhood circles leaked the information that Randolph has threatened to leave the affiliation of the AF of L if "these resolutions are killed."

CIO OFFICIALS BUSY

Local CIO Officials became intensely interested in the progress of the action upon these resolutions within the committees and made frequent inquiries as to when they would be brought up for vote. CIO officials have also sought conference with Randolph and Webster, president and vice-president of the Brotherhood Union.

No statement could be gotten as to Randolph's reaction of the rumor that the Brotherhood would be delivered to the CIO, but it is ascertained that he will walk out on the AF of L if they block his resolutions that would lift discrimination in AF of L crafts.

NEGROES LEFT OUT

Negro delegates were purposely left off the various important committees because the management of the Roosevelt hotel where most of the committee meetings are held, put thumbs down on Negroes using the elevators in the lobby. Entertainment of delegates by the local councils is also lillywhite. The Brotherhood leaders returned the check provided by the local trades council for jimcrow entertainment of Negro delegates.

Randolph has frequently expressed his dissatisfaction over practices of discrimination and prejudice for the duration of the convention which adds to his determination to have his resolutions passed.

A.F. Of L. Head Denies Exploitation Of Rac

NEW YORK, March 15—William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, was condemned this week by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, for denying, in a recent speech in Atlanta, Ga., that "exploitation and racketeering" existed within the top ranks of the A. F. of L., while fully aware that "less than 300 miles away in Tampa, Fla. the most vicious exploitation of and discrimination against Negro shipyard workers is being practiced by officials of the A. F. of L. unions."

The N.A.A.C.P.'s attitude was expressed in a letter sent to Green March 5 in another effort to get the labor leader to investigate conditions in the Tampa, Florida, shipyards where 500 Race workers have been frozen out of their jobs by lily white A. F. of L. unions.

For more than a year the association has sought to get action from the labor leader through an investigation of the discrimination against these men.

Green spoke at the 2-day Southern organization conference of the A F. of L. held in Atlanta, Ga., March 3. It was here that he denounced those who charged the A. F. of L. with permitting exploitation to thrive within the organization.

Predicting that the A. F. of L drive to organize the South will fail unless the leadership learns that "no labor is free until all labor is free," the letter added:

"This utterly vicious situation is conclusive proof of the validity of the charges made by Negro labor delegates of discrimination by certain A. F. of L. unions."

Atlanta, Ga., Journal of Labor
March 1, 1940

Cornelius Maiden, Negro AFL Leader, Heads Delegation

Negro Delegates to Labor Conference Plan Social Event

Cornelius Maiden, Negro organizer for the American Federation of Labor, has been named chairman of the committee on arrangements being made for entertainment of the hundreds of delegates of his race expected to attend the Southern Labor Conference. Chairman Maiden is planning a social event for Saturday night, March 2. There are many thousands of Negro members of the American Federation of Labor Unions in the South, and Organizer Maiden is held in high esteem by this large membership, as well as enjoying the confidence of all American Federation of Labor officials, both national and in the ten states embraced within the Southeastern territory. General Organizer Maiden has for many years directed organization work among the negroes of the South, working out from the office of Mr. George L. Googe, Southern representative of the A. F. of L.

A. F. L. Calls Anti-Trust Suits Brutal

'Damndest Fight Ever' Promised by Padway In Attack on Arnold

By the Associated Press

Atlanta, March 3.—The American Federation of Labor today promised Assistant Attorney General Thurman Arnold "the damnedest fight he ever had" over anti-trust prosecution of building trades unions.

Denouncing Arnold as "a publicity-seeking individual," Chief Counsel Joseph Padway of the A. F. of L. assailed Federal indictments of union building trades groups in New Orleans and elsewhere as "ruthless, brutal, inconsistent, damaging and destructive of the principles of organized labor." He contended labor unions specifically were exempt from provisions of the Sherman Antitrust Act.

"Any sixth-grade pupil who can read English at all would understand these things," thundered the rotund attorney as delegates from ten Southern States yelled encouragement.

Arnold Invites Conference

Padway's statements came near the close of a two-day Southern organization conference of the A. F. of L. and followed by a few hours a charge by John P. Coyne, president of the building and construction trades of the A. F. of L., that Arnold was seeking "to place organized labor under the thumb of the Federal Government." Arnold earlier, in Washington, had made public a letter to Coyne, inviting labor leaders to a conference to clear up "any misunderstanding that exists" over the Government's position.

Padway and Representative Ramspeck (Democrat), of Georgia, today criticized administration of the Wagner Act by the National Labor Relations Board and advocated elimination of the present three-man board in favor of a five-member board, regionally selected.

Ramspeck told the labor delegates to look first to strong union organization and then to labor legislation.

"If you've got a strong union," he observed, "you don't need much legislation.

Hits NLRB Administration

"Don't depend too much on legislation, for legislation—no matter how carefully written—depends on the attitude of administrators for the manner in which it is conducted."

Padway declared the National Labor Relations Act had been "badly administered" and said disputes between the A. F. L. and the Congress for Industrial Organizations "found the so-called judges (of the labor board) taking sides . . . And championing the cause of the C. I. O.

President William Green, of the A. F. L., delivered a Sunday morning sermon at the fashionable Druid Hills (Atlanta) Baptist Church.

Deploring war, racial persecutions and religious intolerance elsewhere in the world, Green urged Americans to "go about our daily work and business, tenaciously holding to our liberties," and added:

"We must not—we dare not—lose our faith in the accomplishments of civilization. We must—we do—believe there will be full expression given to the benefits which our progressive development has made possible."

AFL DRIVE IN DIXIE BALKED BY PREJUDICE

ATLANTA, Mar. 14—(ANP)—A wet blanket was thrown around the American Federation of Labor's plan to sign up 500,000 unionists below the Mason-Dixon Line, when, at last Monday's meeting here of the Southern Labor Conference, colored labor leaders declared that "certain unions" of the A. F. of L. had deliberately discriminated against Negro members in the South.

The Atlanta conference was A. F. of L.-sponsored and timed to open the mass organization drive. The resolution offered by the colored delegates, however, did not say that the discrimination applied to all A. F. of L. affiliates, but that the existence of "any unfairness resulted in an economic handicap to Negro workers."

The colored delegates sought to have full-time Negro organizers hired by the A. F. of L. affiliates and asked that the discriminations complained of be discontinued immediately. After presentation of the resolution, the conference policy committee, led by S. E. Roper, president of the Alabama Federation of Trades, replied with "a pledge of loyalty to more than 200,000 Negro workers organized under the banner of the A. F. of L."

Delegates Hit A.F. of L. Jim Crow

ATLANTA, Ga. — Two hundred colored delegates at the Southern conference of the American Federation of Labor, meeting in Atlanta on Monday, introduced a resolution complaining of racial discrimination in the federation.

The resolution stated that jim crow was not in all of the unions but should not be in any.

The federation thereupon pledged loyalty to 200,000 colored members.

Delegates Jim Crowed

The delegates themselves were segregated into one section of the City Auditorium and took no offical part in the conference, to the extent of serving on any of the important committees, meetings of which were held in lily-white hotels.

When President William Green delivered his address on Saturday evening, to an all-white audience, colored delegates were assembled at the Butler Street YMCA to hear it over the radio.

The committee which drew up the protest resolution included Prof. Doxey A. Wilkerson of Howard University, Professor Price of Tuskegee Institute and David Alston of Virginia.

SAYS COMMISSION SHOULD DECIDE ON HOW WE SHALL SERVE

Believes Negro Should Be Allowed to Render All Possible Service in Defense Program—Evasive on Pertinent Points.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 29.—William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, believes colored people ought to be permitted to render all possible service in the national defense program, but the question of the manner in which their services should be utilized is a matter to be determined by the National Defense Advisory Commission.

That is the gist of his reply to a letter from Rayford W. Logan, chairman of the Committee on Participation of Negroes in the National Defense Program, asking organized labor to join with industry in providing equitable opportunities for participation of colored people in all phases of the national defense program.

SHOULD BE PERMITTED TO RENDER SERVICE

"Negroes in the United States ought to be permitted to render all service possible in the furtherance of the national preparedness program," wrote Mr. Green. "I am sure you must know that we have thousands of Negroes who are members in good standing of the American Federation of Labor.

"For instance, the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters is an organization, chartered by, and in affiliation with the American Federation of Labor, and is composed exclusively of Negro members.

"Then, we have many Negro members who are identified with buildings trades' organizations, chartered by the American Federation of Labor. Cooks and waiters, hod carriers, building and construction laborers, employees in the Government service, and in other fields are all members of the American Federation of Labor occupying a basis of organizational equality with all other members of the American Federation of Labor.

DEFENSE COMMITTEE SHOULD HAVE FINAL SAY

"The question as to how and in what way the service of Negroes may be utilized in the defense program is one to be considered and acted upon by the Defense Committee appointed by the President chairman of the Labor Division of the Advisory Council of National Defense. He is clothed with authority to allocate labor, to assign working men to points where their services are especially needed in the furtherance of the Defense Program. I am sure he can help you to achieve the purpose which you outline in the letter you sent me. I will gladly cooperate in every possible way."

It had been pointed out unofficially to members of the Committee on Participation of Negroes in the National Defense Program that efforts to have colored people share in the non-military phases of the national defense program will avail little unless employer and labor organizations utilize wholeheartedly the great reservoir of skilled, semi-skilled, and unskilled colored labor and apprentices.

HETZEL ANSWERS FOR JOHN L. LEWIS

Identical letters to the one sent Mr. Green were also sent to John L. Lewis, president of the Congress of Industrial Organizations; H. W. Prentis, Jr., president of the National Association of Manufacturers, and James S. Kemper, president of the United States Chamber of Commerce.

"Of course, Mr. Lewis is very much in sympathy with the necessity of increasing the participation of Negroes in the National Defense Program as well as other aspects of American life," Ralph Hetzel, Jr., executive secretary to Mr. Lewis, replied in behalf of the CIO president.

Mr. Lewis suggested a conference between representatives of the Committee on Participation of Negroes in the National Defense Program and John T. Jones, director of Labor's Non-Partisan League, to discuss ways in which cooperation could be made more effective.

for the purpose of promoting the National Defense Program.

"For this reason I would respectfully suggest that you communicate with Sidney Hillman.

IMPRESSED WITH WORK OF COMMITTEE

Mr. Prentis wrote that he was "impressed with the fact that this is a very important matter and have given your letter to the two sub-committees of our Employment Relations Committee which, I believe, are the best equipped to consider this highly important matter."

"I have been impressed by the extensive work which your committee has carried on in order to assure equitable participation by Negroes in the various phases of our national defense program," wrote John W. O'Leary, chairman of the executive committee of the United States Chamber of Commerce.

"The National Chamber maintains a special Committee on National Defense. It would be my suggestion that you come in to discuss with Mr. Edward L. Bacher, the secretary of our National Defense Committee, the objectives you have in mind regarding the non-military phases of the defense program and undertake to work out with him some helpful means whereby it might be achieved."

J. LeVirt Kelly, Chicago Labor Czar, Jailed In Racketeer Quiz

Accused of Helping to Form Anti-Thompkins Body Condemned By Other Union Chiefs.

CHICAGO, Aug. 22—(ANP)—J LeVirt "St. Louis" Kelly, Southside "labor leader" who heads the Waiters, Bartenders and Cooks Union, Local 444, American Federation of Labor, was arrested last week and taken before the grand jury to testify on charges that his organization was dominated by the gangster mob headed by Frank Nitti and Danny Stanton. The records of his union are expected to be brought before the grand jury on Tuesday, August 27.

Kelly was one of the organizers of the new National Council of Negro Democrats, founded following the recent National Democratic convention by Negroes who were opposed to the group headed by Dr. William J. Thompkins. Kelly is also believed back of the trouble the American Negro Exposition has experienced with the carpenters' and musicians' unions which have cost the Exposition more than $50,000 cash.

Raids on Local 444 and the white Miscellaneous Hotel and Restaurant Employees' Union, Local 593, were made Monday afternoon by police. Capt. John Howe of Commissioner Allman's office, who led the squads, said the intention was to rid unions of racketeer control. Local 444 and Local 593 are believed to be in Stanton's control. Stanton and Nitti are successors to Al Capone.

William Crawford, assistant state's attorney, said he had been informed that Stanton has obtained $1,800 a month from the waiters' union for some years. Records, he declared, show that the union took in $80,000 in 1939. Entries indicate that dues should bring in $9,000 a month as there are 4,500 members and each pays $2 monthly.

Crawford also pointed out that Kelly is generally known through the Southside as the "mob's man" and because of this alleged gangster connection, can do just about as he pleases with a minimum of interference. He is also understood to have an interest in several policy games and to have an arrangement about them with Stanton.

His union was organized several years ago and now has a large membership with practically all places of business under control. Members complain privately that they pay more dues than do whites in their locals and have not received the advantage of pay increases or shorter hours. Business men assert Kelly uses "strongarm" tactics and is a trouble maker."

Before organizing Local 444, Kelly had long been active in Democratic politics, once owned a newspaper, was a professional gambler, and had been arrested many times for gambling and pandering. Although of average height and slender build, Kelly had a reputation as probably the Southside's toughest "bad man" and has been involved in many shooting scrapes and fights.

Many other labor leaders have been outspoken in their condemnation of Kelly since his arrest. Willard S. Townsend, president of the International Red Caps Union, asserted that Kelly with his "strong arm" organization has been on the spot at the state's attorney's office for more than a year and that the Local 444 officials had "practically forced" men and women to join and pay dues. Agents of the union also "influence" businesses to take slot machines and music venders.

Since Kelly's arrest, most of the staff at Local 444 have gone away on "vacation." It is understood that Miss Virginia Blanton, the union leader's secretary, and Wendell Jones, chairman of the board of directors, will be "out of the city" until the case is ended.

Colored Firemen Fear Displacement: Organize

DEC 28 1940

NEW YORK—Colored firemen of the United States will be called together for a national conference in Washington, D. C., in the month of March, according to a statement made by A. Philip Randolph, international president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters.

Randolph stated that the purpose of the conference will be to formulate a long range program of organization and legislation in the interest of the relief of that class of colored railroad workers from their present job insecurity.

Reports from colored firemen on railroads in the southeast and southwest reveal that many are losing their right of seniority and are being displaced by white firemen despite the fact that colored firemen may have 10 or 20 years of service above that of the white firemen.

Regulations by the Interstate Commerce Commission require that in the next few years coal burning engines be equipped with stokers or replaced by Diesel ower. As a result of this change, and through the organized strength of the white firemen, it is said that definite confidential understandings have and are being developed that provide for the elimination of the colored firemen.

One of the understandings is supposedly that railway carriers shall not hire firemen to fill vacancies caused by the death of colored firemen who are not promotable, and that colored firemen be refused training in the operation of the Diesel engine. Colored firemen are not promotable because they cannot become engineers.

Since colored firemen are not accepted as members of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Enginemen and Firemen, which controls the bargaining rights on most railway properties by virtue of the possession of the majority of the firemen in the employ of the carriers, they are deprived of representation before federal agencies regulating the relationship between carriers and their employees. Colored firemen face the necessity of devising some program to meet this situation.

Movement to Displace Negro Railway Firemen Started by Labor Union

Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen Attempts to Force Out Colored Men Doing Skilled Work in South

DEC 13 1940

SAVANNAH, Ga. — A movement has been initiated and is being vigorously prosecuted by the Brotherhood of Railway Firemen and Enginemen, the effect of which, if successful, will be to deprive some 2,000 or more colored firemen and hostlers of their jobs on 20 railroads in the Southeast.

The movement is being resisted by the managements of the railroads affected on the ground that colored men are adapted to such work, have given efficient service, and that the Negro deserves a square deal.

Furthermore they argue that the natural home of the Negro is in the South, that the labor of him and his family is needed in this section, that to limit further his right to employment in this territory is an economic error and a social injustice.

Must Have Strong Expression

But if the future may be judged by the past, the protests of railway management will prove unavailing, unless they are re-enforced by an unmistakably strong expression of enlightened public sentiment.

It should be understood by all who approach a consideration of this important question of public policy that the substitution of white for colored firemen will cost the railroads nothing. The scale of pay and the working conditions of the white man and the black man in the firemen's seat are exactly the same.

This pay ranges from $150 to $200 per month. The white man's union uses this parity in pay to argue for the employment of white men only. It is another instance of the often repeated experience, that as soon as a colored man's pay becomes attractive, an effort is made to bar him from the job.

Hold Half of Firemen Jobs

The railroads in the South employ both white and colored firemen. There are no colored engineers. It is, therefore, the policy of most of the railroads to employ a sufficient number of white firemen to provide for a supply of engineers and to fill other places with colored men. Probably about half of the firemen in the South are colored.

The union could not, and therefore does not attempt to secure the immediate discharge of the colored firemen but is demanding that after this date no more be employed. On some southeastern railroads it has already been successful in enforcing its demand. It does not use the language "white" or "colored" in its demands, but insists that only "promotable firemen and helpers" be employed.

The Union further demands that when new runs or jobs are established, ony promotable men be assigned to them, and it wishes to bar colored men from 'other than steam power,' that is to say, the diesel engines now rapidly being put into service. Since colored men are not in line for promotion to engineers, the effect of all this is simply to close the door of employment to the colored man who may wish to become a fireman or a hostler.

These demands were first made in March of this year, and to date have not been granted. However, practically all demands by the railroad labor unions during recent years have been successful, and there is every reason to believe that history will repeat itself in this instance, unless there is a vigorous and united protest from clear-thinking people.

If the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen enforce its demand the immediate effect will be that no more colored men can be employed as firemen or hostlers. In the course of a few years the colored firemen now in service will be forced out, or through age or disability will be forced out. or through age or disability will be retired, and the firemen's job will belong exclusively to white men.

There will be other and more far-reaching effects than the permanent loss to the race of these 2,000 well paid jobs, tragic though that is to contemplate. There are many thousands of Negroes in railway jobs other than firemen or hostlers in the shops, the section gangs, as truckers, waiters, brakemen, flagmen, porters and the like.

It is a certainty that if the firemen are successful in putting up this ban, the other unions will follow their example, and soon—very soon—the transportation industry which now affords opportunity and fair treatment to thousands and thousands of colored men, will employ only a pitiful few in those menial and low-paid positions that the white man may not wish.

Situation Critical

It cannot be denied that there was never a more serious, indeed a more critical situation confronting the colored people of the United States since the days of slavery. It deserves the immediate thought and the concerted actions not of colored people alone, but of all who are in the least concerned in social justice and economic equity.

What then can be done about it? These measures are suggested:

(1) Immediate publicity in the press as to this campaign, its immediate and future effects, and its implications. Obviously any discussion should be free from prejudice and based on merits of the case. The press of the South in particular, and the nation as a whole, should be advised.

(2) Bring the situation to the attention of such organizations as the Committee on Interracial Relations, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, etc., Society for the Preservation of Civil Liberties.

(3) Enlist the good offices of those to whom an appeal can be made through political strength, the President, also Senators, members of Congress, in whose districts there is a considerable vote of those affected.

(4) Arouse the interest of ministers, lodge leaders and others in position to influence action.

(5) By direct mail and word of mouth inform railway employes of the threat to their livelihood and their future.

(6) Consider approach to philanthropists who have in the past shown an interest in the welfare of the race.

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$120,000 SUIT IS FILED BY RED CAPS

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Jan. 11.—Contending that tips are not wages, the Brotherhood of Railway Clerks, in behalf of 93 red caps employed at the Union station here, filed suit in Federal court Saturday for $120,000 in wages alleged to be due from the Terminal Railroad Association under the wages and hours law.

The Brotherhood of Railway Clerks is a so-called white union which has recently extended its activities to protection of certain classes of colored workers. The present action is one of several which have grown out of efforts to determine the status of workers for tips since the wages and hours law went into effect.

The suit also seeks to recover an additional $120,000, or a total of $240,000, under a provision of the law that the amount of wages found due by a court might be doubled as liquidating damages.

Gov. Lehman Accepts Invitation To Speak At Porters Meeting

Information was received from the international headquarters of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters at 217 West 125th street, New York City, that Hon. Herbert H. Lehman, Governor of the State of New York, will address the biennial convention of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters on Tuesday, September 17th at 11:30 a. m., in the auditorium of the YWCA, 137th street and Seventh avenue.

Governor Lehman, despite his many pressing obligations incident to the problems of national defense, expressed a strong desire to bring a message of greetings to the Pullman porters, maids, attendants, train porters, bus boys and private car cooks at the convention.

AUG 31 1940

In addition to the delegates, their families and friends, the general public is invited to hear Governor Lehman on the above mentioned occasion, says A. Philip Randolph, international president.

Porters' Chief Hails New Deal

SEP 16 1940

A. Philip Randolph, president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, today praised the social and labor gains of the New Deal and condemned Communism in a speech opening the 15th annual convention of his union at the Harlem Y. M. C. A.

"We condemn all Communist Front and transmission belt organizations as a peril to the constructive and sound program of the Negro people," he said, "since they seek only to serve the cause of the Communist party, which is only concerned about the success of the foreign policy of Soviet Russia.

"We hail the social and labor gains of the workers and people under the New Deal. We demand that they be preserved and not sacrificed under the pretext of national defense."

Green Asks Negro Porters To 'Sacrifice'

Vague on Jim Crow in Ranks of AFL; Makes War-Mongering Plea

SEP 16 1940

William Green, AFL president and principal guest speaker before the opening session of the Fifteenth Anniversary Convention of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters here yesterday performed a masterpiece of evasion in a lengthy speech that completely ducked an issue raised by a previous speaker—the need for organization of unorganized Negro workers.

Over a thousand Negroes, more than a hundred of them delegates crowded every available seat in the Salem M.E. Church at 129th St. and Seventh Ave. as the anniversary convention opened under the chairmanship of Ashley L. Totten, international secretary-treasurer of the brotherhood, an organization of more than 7,000 members.

Green's speech was one of the most rabid warmongering effusions ever delivered by a so-called labor leader before a gathering of workers. The AFL president did everything but declare war, and when touching upon President Roosevelt's recent dictatorial action of giving the British government 50 destroyers without securing sanction of either the American people or its Congress, he said he "heartily approved" of the transaction.

He went on to plead, in Churchillian style, for American labor to "give all its brains, all its brawn and muscle, and all its services" to the pro-war government's armaments program.

Green polished off his speech by indulging in a fuming attack upon the Soviet trade unions, and the Soviet government's peace policy which was none too enthusiastically received by the delegates and audience.

It was M. P. Webster, international first vice-president of the brotherhood, preceding Green on the rostrum, who posed a series of sharp issues which Green, in his subsequent speech carefully skirted. Webster tackled the burning question of the widespread race discrimination which the Negroes of this nation suffer under, and said that the prejudice extends into the ranks of the American Federation of Labor. He said, despite criticism of many Negro leaders of the Brotherhood's affiliation with the AFL, that it is the duty of the brotherhood to remain in the AFL "and in the labor movement and fight prejudice where it is."

"You can't fight it from the outside," he declared emphatically.

Webster assailed the press for its constant distortion of the Negro people, and singled out the reactionary Saturday Evening Post for publishing stories "which attempt to ridicule the Pullman porter," stories, which he said "are written in a dialect one can hardly understand."

The Negro union leader said that despite the splendid record of organization made by the brotherhood, that out of the 100,000 Negro workers in the railroad industry, the vast majority remain unorganized and neglected by most of the union officials.

[Full details of the convention proceedings will be continued in tomorrow's Daily Worker.]

Randolph Urges Porters To Fight For Lynch Bill

Defender Chicago Ill.

SEP 28 1940

NEW YORK. — (ANP)— More than 100 delegates from all parts of the country, representing over 6,000 organized Pullman porters, met at the Harlem YMCA this week in the fifteenth anniversary and biennial convention of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters.

An elaborate program was outlined for the six-day meeting beginning Sunday, September 15.

On Sunday at 2 p.m., fully 2,000 marchers paraded through Harlem's avenues cheered by thousands who lined the streets. The parade ended in a mass meeting at the Salem M. E. church and an overflow crowd gathered to hear A. Phillip Randolph, international president, make his annual address.

Ashley L. Totten, international secretary-treasurer, was general chairman of the convention and in this capacity acted as chairman of the mass meeting.

He introduced William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor; M. P. Webster, first vice president of BSCP; Senator James M. Mead and others on the program.

The Governor Speaks

Business sessions occupied most of the morning sessions during the week. On Monday night, the annual dinner was held at Mecca temple, with some 800 persons hearing a brilliant array of speakers headed by Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt.

Others on the program included Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, Mayor F. LaGuardia, Lieut. Gov. Charles Poletti, Aubrey Williams, and Walter White. Governor Herbert H. Lehman addressed the brotherhood and the Ladies' auxiliary on Tuesday in the auditorium of the YWCA.

Wednesday delegates and the auxiliary were entertained at Lido pool with a cocktail party. Thursday was Brotherhood day at the fair and Mrs. Frances Perkins, department of labor, was principal speaker. On Friday night the week's activities were climaxed with a huge ball at the Golden Gate ballroom.

Against Communist

President Randolph in his speech told delegates that "we should reject the Communist program as negating Democracy." He also advocated "national unity of all people regardless of race or nationality," asked for labor unity by having "CIO return to the House of Labor (AF of L) and the preservation of the achievements of industrial organization made by the CIO.' He made a strong plea for the abolition of poll taxes, white primaries and the passage of the anti-lynching bill.

International officers of the Brotherhood are: A. Philip Randolph, president; M. P. Webster Chicago, first vice president; Bennie Smith, Detroit, second vice president; E. J. Bradley, St. Louis, third vice president; C. L. Dellums, Oakland, Cal., fourth vice president; Ashley L. Totten, New York, secretary-treasurer; Thomas Patterson, secretary executive board; L. D. Mae Neal, St. Louis, Ernest Smith, Chicago, and B. F. McLaurin, N. Y., field organizers.

Greenwood. [illegible] Index Journa
September 26, 1940

PULLMAN PORTERS SPEAK OUT

The Pullman porters of the country are strong for the Third Term movement, as shown by the following reference to their annual convention held in New York City a few days ago and taken from the New York Times:

Mayor La Guardia told two thousand Negro delegates and guests of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters last night that the men and women "who toil for their living in this country" and who have seen "the interest of their own government in their own families" in the last seven years "would naturally" support Franklin D. Roosevelt.

The Mayor's remarks brought a noisy ovation from the delegates who had just heard Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt praise their brotherhood and pay tribute to the Negro race as one of the nation's "minorities" that are making growing contributions to the country's culture and economy.

The occasion was the organization's Labor Dinner at Mecca Temple. The brotherhood, an A. F. of L. affiliate and the only Negro international union in the United States, began yesterday the first of a series of business sessions and social events to be held during its fifteenth anniversary convention which ends on Friday.

The Mayor was introduced by Ashley L. Totten, international secretary-treasurer of the brotherhood, who insisted that, despite accusations to the contrary, the organization was strictly non-partisan, but that he "reserved the right to say that President Roosevelt is without doubt the greatest man who ever stepped into the White House." This brought thunderous applause from the delegates. Then the Mayor rose to speak.

All of which is news and a contribution to the high and low lights of the national campaign.

Pullman porters alone may not have so many votes but their friends and families have a lot of them in the North and East and both the great parties are after them.

The attitude of the delegates to the national convention indicates the Third Term High Command has the stronger grip on them at the present stage of the game.

BROTHERHOOD OF SLEEPING CAR PORTERS

Democracy could never have been demonstrated in a greater degree than the scene (above) in which the wife of the President, Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, joins with leaders of our own race in welcoming the nation's Pullman porters to New York. Photo shows A. Philip Randolph (L to R), president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, Mrs. Roosevelt, Mrs. Mary McCleod Bethune and Mrs. Philip A. Randolph. Throughout President Roosevelt's 8 years in office, his wife has been a powerful force for good with respect to a better race relations between white and colored.

Mobile, Ala., Forum Sun,
Aug. 23, 1940-

OCT 4 1940

A.F. of L. PRESIDENT TO ADDRESS PORTERS

NEW YORK CITY— At one of the biggest labor demonstrations ever staged in New York City, William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, will address the opening mass meeting of the Brotherhood's biennial convention and fifteenth anniversary celebration, Sunday, September 15, at the Salem Mthodist Episcopal Church, 129th street and Seventh avenue, according to reports received from the Brotherhood's international headquarters in New York.

This will be the second time that President Green has spoken under auspices of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters in New York City. His first appearance was some nine years ago. This time he will speak for the Brotherhood, which has successfully negotiated a wage agreement for Pullman porters which has brought to them recognition from the powerful Pullman Company, states A. Philip Randolph, international president.

President Green will discuss the role of the American Federation of Labor in the organization of the American workers in general and the Negro workers in particular.

-xxXXxx-

TO FIGHT CAB TACTICS IN CAPITAL

A. PHILLIP RANDOLPH ERRED WHEN HE REFUSED FUNDS PROVIDED FOR SEPARATE ENTERTAIN MENT FOR NEGRO DELEGATES TO THE A.F.L. CONVENTION AT NEW ORLEANS; NEGROES IN SOUTH WANT EQUAL WORK, WAGE AND EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES, BETTER LIVING CONDITIONS, EQUAL PROTECTION UNDER THE LAW AND NOT SOCIAL INTERMINGLING

DEC 7 1940

Last week the newspapers reported A. Phillip Randolph, president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, refused to accept the funds provided by the New Orleans Trade and Labor Council for a separate social entertainment for Negro delegates to the sixteenth annual convention of the American Federation of Labor at New Orleans. Personally, I have always admired Mr. Randolph in his courageous fight for the improvement of work and wage conditions for race workers. He has made a greater contribution towards organizing Negro workers than any other individual. But, As I See It, he overlooked an opportunity to help inspire and inform workers as well as professional groups of the race when he opposed a separate entertainment for Negroes at the AFL international convention holding session in the heart of the deep South.

It is my understanding that it is a custom at these conventions to hold a purely social entertainment during the meeting where deelgates may relax and get acquainted socially with fellow delegates and visitors. In the South, it has been an established tradition where whites and Negroes meet and mix in business session, their social entertainments are usually held separately. No doubt, in New Orleans, Negroes who had charge of arrangements had made elaborate plans with the support of the New Orleans Trade and Labor Council composed of white and Negro members to entertain members, visitors and friends of their own race.

AS I SEE IT, on this occasion, both Mr. Randolph and Milton P. Webster, the next ranking official of the Sleeping Car Porters Union, who are well educated and informed on the labor situation, could have brought to the Negro citizens of the Crescent City much inspiration and information they would not have otherwise gotten from labor and world problems.

Negro Labor News

Many of our leaders do not realize there are problems peculiar to the Negro and a solution to these problems oftentimes comes through a frank discussion among ourselves. For instance, in the field of labor, the general Negro public needs to be awakened to the many barriers against Negro workers however, brought on in many instances by themselves, and those of us informed and have knowledge of these conditions, especially of Mr. Randolph's class, should take advantage of even on social occasions, to give some enlightment and advice along these lines.

Houston, Texa

AS I SEE IT, Negroes everywhere should be more concerned about economic and living conditions, about their jobs, education and political status, rather than about a white handshake, a pat on the back and social intermingling with the opposite race.

Human rights should not in any way be confused with social equality. It does not mean social equality to provide equal accommodtions for Negroes on railroads, bus terminals. It does not mean social equality to provide equal facilities and opportunities in hospitals, schools and other public institutions. It does not mean social equality to grant Negro citizens and taxpayers their constitutional right to vote along with other ciizens. It does not mean social equality to pay Negroes equal wages for equal work as other workers.

I think the race is fast removing the idea many white people have held

that "if Negroes are given certain rights and opportunities as other citizens, it would lead to intermarriage, social intermingling, and the like." To the contrary, Negroes, North and South are generally satisfied and happier with their own group.

It is quite noticable now there is an element of whites particularly among the communists, seeking to lure the Negro into various organizations and movements through social activities.

AS I SEE IT, this practice should be discouraged. We should continue our fight in this country for economic advancement. We should instill in our youth to be proud of their ancestors and heed the wise saying of the late Booker T. Washington "In all things social, the two races should be as separate as the fingers on the hand."

R.R. PORTERS CELEBRATE AT ANNUAL MEET

Observe 20th Anniversary In 3-Day Session At Chicago YMCA

DEC 7 1940

The twentieth anniversary and annual convention of the Pullman Porters Benefit association came to a close Friday at the Wabash avenue Y.M.C.A., where it was in session from November 19 to 21, inclusive.

The meeting was presided over by E. M. Graham, grand chairman.

Delegates were here from every large city in the United States. The meeting was one of the most successful of its history. The annual address by E. M. Graham; the comptroller's report by P. A. Samples and the secretary-treasurer's report by Clarence Hyte showed an increase in reserves and finances. Each delegate brought encouraging reports from the various lodges in all parts of the country.

The convention was addressed by a number of outstanding leaders and ministers. The first speaker on Tuesday, the opening day, was Atty. Wendell E. Green, Chicago civil service commissioner. Wednesday morning, Rev. James W. Eichelberger, secretary of education, A. M. E. Zion church and Rev. E. P. Murchison, pastor of Jubilee Temple, C.M.E. church, addressed the conference.

L. S. Hungerford Honored

The 20th anniversary meeting was held in honor of L. S. Hungerford, vice president of the Pullman company. It was he who made it possible for a number of positions to be opened for members of the Race. This special program was held in the gymnasium of the Wabash avenue "Y" on Tuesday. Mr. Hungerford who was too ill to be present was represented by E. S. Taylor, assistant to the vice president.

T. H. Gibson acted as master of ceremonies. George R. Arthur paid high tribute to Mr. Hungerford. P. A. Samples, comptroller, presented H. R. Bullock, San Frisco, Calif., who won the trophy for bringing in the most members for the year. Clarence Hyte, grand secretary-treasurer, presented the delegates, also the women auxiliary delegate who met with the convention for the first time. H. T. Pelky, retired director, was presented.

Music was provided by the Pullman Porters quartet.

Pullman Officials Present

Twenty-five officials of the Pullman company attended the anniversary meeting on the first night They were presented by E. K. Graham.

All Officers Re-elected

All officers were re-elected by acclamation. Mrs. Addie Mae Embree was elected president of the woman's auxiliary. She is from San Antonio, Texas. The ladies auxiliary of Chicago entertained the delegates Wednesday with a banquet at the Quincy club. Thanksgiving night, the delegates were entertained with a reception and dance at Bacon's Casino.

Saturday afternoon, Nov 23, E. M. Graham, grand officers and board of directors and visiting delegates, motored to Lincoln cemetery where a wreath was laid on the grave of the late Perry Parker, founder and first president. W. C. Taylor, director of New York City delivered the eulogy. The convention adjourned to meet Thanksgiving week 1941.

Porters' Banquet Addressed By Eleanor Roosevelt

SEP 21 1940

By ALFRED A. DUCKETT

In the majesty of the soft lights of the imposing Mecca Temple and to the bursts of oratorical eloquence from the lips of some of the foremost figures of the nation, Franklin Delano Roosevelt received one of the most inspired boosts in support of his third-term candidacy yet to come in this campaign among the Negroes of the country as the powerful Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters highlighted the sessions of its four-day Biennial Convention with a Testimonial Banquet Monday night which union officials were careful to stress was "strictly a non-political" event.

Guest of honor at the dinner was Mrs. Franklin Delano Roosevelt whose gracious charm completely captivated the 1000 delegates, delegates' wives, families and friends who filled the banquet hall to capacity. Mrs. Roosevelt presented by Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, nationally-famed educator, after the union's International President, A. Philip Randolph, had called upon the "first lady of our Negro nation to present to us the First Lady of America."

Mrs. Roosevelt received a tremendous ovation as she paid tribute to Mrs. Bethune's "inspirational life as a woman and a teacher," and went on to counsel the membership of the organization that "we all have a great task and responsibility—that of improving our democracy." Praising the passage of conscription legislation as a measure designed to "keep our country safe" the Chief Executive's wife said:

"I here pledge to you my faith, cooperation and energy to make this a better country, not for you alone, but for all of us. I want to take your pledge in return that you will do the same—to make Americans feel that this country is safer because it is a better land to live in for everyone."

Mayor LaGuardia Speaks

Second speaker in importance on the dias was Mayor LaGuardia who was up to his usual hard-hitting form and showed it by agreeing that "this is a non-partisan meeting" and that "any gathering of men and women in this country who toil for their living and who have witnessed the progress of the last seven years and have seen the interest of their own government in their own families would naturally be as non-partisan as we are and all for Franklin D. Roosevelt."

Sobering, the Mayor reminded the gathering that "I was coming to Philip Randolph's meetings long before I was Mayor." He traced the growth of the Brotherhood, terming it one of the most progressive labor organizations in the country and stating that its greatest achivement has been "giving self-respect to every Pullman Porter who works for our railroads."

Walter White, executive secretary of the NAACP, brought down the house with the militant warning that "America must practice democracy in truth at home as well as urge its practice abroad." White declared that "England today would be in a better position if she had done those things in the past which would have gained for her the warm respect and confidence of her colonies." White attacked discrimination in the national defense program.

Lieut-Governor Charles Poletti brought the good wishes of Gov. Herbert H. Lehman and dubbed A. Philip Randolph "one of the most progressive, loyal labor leaders we in America have today."

SEP 21 1940

Other speakers included Aubrey Williams, director of the National Youth Administration; James C. Quinn, secretary-treasurer of the Central Trades and Labor Council; the Rev. Cordelia Lloyd Imes and C. L. Dellums, fourth international vice-president of the Brotherhood.

Entertainment during dinner was provided by Prof. Furman Fordham and Nadine Williams, soloists; three clever tots who go by the name of "The Three Natural Alabamians," and Humboldt Findlay, cornetist.

Give Out Campaign Buttons

Helena Williams, international president of the Brotherhood's Ladies Auxiliary, made a presentation of roses to Mrs. Roosevelt while Mrs. Randolph, wife of the organization's leader presented Mrs. Bethune with flowers. Ashley L. Totten, international, secretary-treasurer, presided ably.

Members of the organization invited the departing guests to help themselves from a supply of hundreds of Roosevelt for President buttons as the dinner ended.

COMMUNISM HELD PERIL TO NEGROES

Pullman Porters Are Warned It Offers No Solution for Their Race's Problems

LEADER PRAISES NEW DEAL

Hails Its Social and Labor Gains—Calls for Union of A. F. L. and C. I. O.

SEP 17 1940

The Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, A. F. of L., the only Negro international union in the United States, was warned at the first business session of its fifteenth anniversary convention in Harlem yesterday that communism was no solution for the problems of the Negro. Among many resolutions drafted for consideration by the convention was one proposing to bar Communists from holding office or committee membership in the brotherhood.

A warning against the false promises of Communists was first sounded by A. Philip Randolph, president of the brotherhood, who resigned last April as president of the National Negro Congress, on the ground that it was controlled by Communists. Addressing the brotherhood at the Harlem branch of the Y. M. C. A., 180 West 135th Street, Mr. Randolph praised the social and labor gains made under the New Deal.

Asks Stand for Democracy

"With the march of dictatorships we must reaffirm our faith and devotion to the cause of democracy and liberty," he declared. "To that end, we reject the Communist program as a solution of the problems of the Negro, because it is the negation of democracy.

"We condemn all Communist front and transmission belt organizations as a peril to the constructive and sound program of the Negro people, since they seek only to serve the cause of the Communist party, which is only concerned about the success of the foreign policy of Soviet Russia.

"We hail the social and labor gains of the workers and people under the New Deal. We demand that they be preserved and not sacrificed under the pretext of national defense.

"We stand solid for adequate and complete national defense. We call for labor unity by C. I. O. unions returning to the home of labor—the A. F. of L.—and the preservation of the achievements of industrial organization made by the C. I. O.

"We call for the abolition of the poll tax and white primaries, and the passing of the Anti-Lynching bill.

"We are opposed to America entering the war, but we advocate all aid to Great Britain."

Speech Reflects Resolutions

The Presidential, or keynote speech, was in large measure a summary of the resolutions that are scheduled for submission to the convention.

One proposed resolution, while advocating adequate national defense, voices opposition to conscription, and demands "that organized labor and the Negro be given adequate and fair representation on the draft boards." Still another resolution "warns the Negroes against the evil propaganda of Nazis in the Negro communities against the Jewish people."

Resolution No. 36 would support the proposed revision of the agreement to be submitted to the management of the Pullman Company reducing from 240 to 210 the number of hours worked monthly.

The convention will continue at 11 o'clock this morning, when Governor Lehman is scheduled to address the delegates.

REDS MORE SUBTLE THAN NAZIS, SAYS RANDOLPH

SEP 21 1940

Washington Tribune

Candide, who conducts a regular column "Only Human" on the editorial page of the New York Daily Mirror, presenting candid portraits of notables in the news salutes A. Philip Randolph, president of the International Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters an A.F. of L. affiliate, in the Tuesday, September 17 issue.

Unfortunately Candide spoils the whole effect when he gets out of focus with this caption: "George' No. 1" in referring to Mr. Randolph.

The nickname "George" for all Pullman porters was born, according to legend, because the father of the Pullman car was George Pullman. Despite the fact that a large part of the traveling public is intelligent enough to call a sleeping car porter by his name or merely "porter" there exists many persons, including the erudite Candide, who insist on calling Pullman porters "George." By the same token all Ford dealers and salesmen might be dubbed "Henry" or to carry this reasoning further we might just as well call the occupant of the White House, "George." Did someone say "Mr. George"?

Now go on with the column:

Three times Negroes had tried to organize Pullman porters; each time they failed—before A. Philip Randolph head of the International Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters started the organization in 1925.

Today every sleeping car company in America does business with that Brotherhood.

Randolph gets a salary of $3,600 a year as head of the Brotherhood—"half as much as the lowest paid union president in the country."

But he conceives of his job as far larger than the Brotherhood he's working for his race, working to give the American Negro the full measure of democracy that Lincoln meant for them to have.

Randolph's big hope had been the National Negro Congress—but the Reds knifed it. . .

"I learned their technique first-hand," Randolph said. "The Congress was formed in Chicago in 1935. I was sick in New York at the time—but they elected me president."

He resigned last April "because I was convinced that the Congress was a Communist Front . . . they crawled in right under our noses and we couldn't stop them.

"As soon as the Congress was formed the Reds formed a lot of paper organizations, like they always do. Then these paper organizations sent delegates to the Congress, and these delegates had a right to vote.

"In the Negro Congress the Red delegates (many of them were whites) concentrated on getting control of the crief committee—the presiding committee, which elects all the officers.

"They took the short cut and it worked. There were 1,000 delegates at the Congress representing two million Negroes. But a handful of Reds dictated policy, and it followed the Party line laid down by Stalin from Moscow.

"That story is typical—Reds fought for the Scottsboro Boys—not to save the boys, but to worm their sordid propaganda around. They got an undeserved reputation for being fighters in the cause of Justice.

"They are more subtle than the Nazis. The Nazis use bluntness. Reds use such tender ideals as peace and religion to cloak their schemes—these are powerful fruits, especially with honest people.

"Why, James Ford, Red Vice-Presidential candidate is now a member of the National Negro Congress executive committee—which is supposed to represent church groups and the YMCA's.

Strong-minded, far-sighted, absolutely fearless and honest, Randolph and the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters have achieved a unique record: the union has never endrosed any political candidate.

That is a fundamental rule that Sam Gompers enforced upon the American Federation of labor; it is remembered today only by that union whose members are called "George."

A. PHILIP RANDOLPH

PULLMAN PORTERS PARADE IN HARLEM AS THRONGS CHEER

Pittsburgh Courier

Colorful Line of March Ten Blocks Long—Other Organizations Also Represented.

SEP 21 1940

By TED POSTON
Staff Correspondent

NEW YORK, N. Y., Sept. 19—Thousands of cheering Harlemites jammed the sidewalks of this community Sunday to hail the International Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters in a colorful parade through Harlem as a prelude to the official opening of the Union's Fifteenth Annual Convention.

With Ashley L. Totten, International Secretary-Treasurer, acting as Grand Marshall, followed by A. Phillip Randolph and M. P. Webster, International President and Vice President, the Porters received the tribute along with a score of other unions which participated in the parade, led by the Brotherhood band and scores of uniformed porters, attendants, train porters and flag bearers.

The ten-block parade line included members of Local 370, Dining Car Employees Union, the Railway Men's Association, the United Transport Service Employees of America, and the Ladies Auxiliary of the Brotherhood.

These were followed by a delegation from the International Ladies' Garment Workers Union, the Henry Lincoln Johnson band and the Building Service Employees Union.

Then came the Col. Charles Young Post, American Legion band and Auxiliary Girls and Trumpet corps, Girl Scout Troop No. 124 with bugle corps, and the Progressive Temple Marching club.

Also the Imperial Elks Lodge and band, the American Virgin Islands Societies and band, the Nassau Bahamas Society, the Ethiopian World Federation band and Private Chauffeurs Union, No. 900, with a 20-automobile cavalcade, the Central Trades Union Label delegation from the American Federation of Labor Council and scores of others in automobiles.

The parade ended at Salem M. E. Church at 129th street and Seventh for a mass meeting.

A Misrepresentation of The Negro People's Interest

SEP 15 1940

• A. Phillip Randolph did not speak for the interests of the Negro people the other day when he gave out a war-mongering interview whitewashing British imperialism.

"Negroes don't want Britain to win merely because they love her," Randolph told the war-inciting New York Post, "but because . . . they love the democratic way of life and the status of human beings." This is both an assault upon facts and a complete misrepresentation of the deep feeling of the Negro for freedom.

How could the Negro people "love" British imperialism while it enslaves millions of Negroes in South Africa, and brutally oppresses them in the West Indies! How could they "love" British and French imperialism when it was they, with the silent approval of Wall Street, who dealed the gates of defenseless Ethiopia to Mussolini. This is the way British imperialism assures "the democratic way of life and the status of human beings" to Negroes.

SEP 15 1940

The Negro people are dead set against human degradation, whether it comes from Hitler, from Churchill, or from the lynch lords in the United States. While Randolph paid lip-service to the "democratic way of life," there was not one word of condemnation of the two major parties for their shameful knifing of the anti-lynching and the Geyer anti-poll tax bills.

Randolph has picked up the treacherous line of Social-Democracy and is seeking to tie them up to the Administration's war program. In doing this, he is aiding the worst enemies of his people, helping them to scrap the anti-lynching bill under the guise of "national defense."

More and more the Negro people are exhibiting a healthy determination to discard both war parties, and to join with labor and progressives in independent action for Negro rights, peace and civil liberties. It is by resisting the war-mongering "defense" program that they will be "preserving the democratic way of life and the status of human beings."

6,000 BROTHERHOOD MEMBERS HEAR OUTSTANDING SPEAKERS AT BIENNIAL CONFAB IN N. Y.

The Call
Kansas City, Mo.

William Green, Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, Mrs. Mary Bethune, Mayor LaGuardia and Walter White Appear on Program

SEP 27 1940

NEW YORK.—(ANP)—More than 100 delegates from all parts of the country, representing over 6,000 organized Pullman porters, met at the Harlem Y.M.C.A. this week in the 15th anniversary and biennial convention of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters. An elaborate program was outlined for the six-day meeting beginning Sunday, September 15.

On Sunday at 2 p.m., fully 2,000 marchers paraded through Harlem's avenues cheered by thousands who lined the streets. The parade ended in a mass meeting at the Salem M. E. church and an overflow crowd gathered to hear A Philip Randolph, International president, make his annual address.

Ashley L. Totten, international secretary-treasurer, was general chairman of the convention and in this capacity acted as chairman of the mass meeting. He introduced William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor; M. P. Webster, first vice-president of BSCP; Senator James M. Mead and others on the program.

Brilliant Speakers

Business sessions occupied most of the morning sessions during the week. On Monday night, the annual dinner was held at Mecca temple, with some 800 persons hearing a brilliant array of speakers headed by Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt. Others on the program included Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, Mayor F. LaGuardia, Lieut. Gov. Charles Poletti, Aubrey Williams, and Walter White.

Governor Herbert H. Lehman addressed the brotherhood and the Ladies' auxiliary on Tuesday in the auditorium of the Y.W.C.A. He congratulated the BSCP on their splendid progress in a little over 15 years and then told them "What has held you back has been the indifference of workers and employers." He came out strongly for preparedness, endorsed the Conscription bill by calling it the "best insurance for lasting peace."

"The United States is the only country where there is freedom," he continued. "There must be no weakening of defenses and labor has a lot to say to defend democracy against dictators who are always enemies of free labor . . . Britain is the last bulwark of democracy . . . Beaten and destroyed, democracy would then be in danger, we could not keep war from our shores . . . should supply Britain with all weapons not essential to our defense . . . Total war is not respector of race or color."

Entertained at Lido Pool

Wednesday delegates and the auxiliary were entertained at Lido pool with a cocktail party. Thursday was Brotherhood day at the fair and Mrs. Frances Perkins, department of labor, was principal speaker. On Friday night the week's activities were climaxed with a huge ball at the Golden Gate ballroom.

President Randolph in his speech told delegates that "we should reject the Communist program as

negating Democracy." He also advocated "national unity of all people regardless of race or nationality," asked for labor unity by having "CIO return to the House of Labor (AF of L) and the preservation of the achievements of industrial organization made by the CIO." He made a strong plea for the abolition of poll taxes, white primaries and the passage of the anti-lynching bill.

A number of resolutions on which there was a little likelihood of division, were prepared. They called for "unqualified opposition to the condemnation of the Communist, Nazi and Fascist dictatorships of Russia, Germany and Italy;" condemnaton of fifth columnists; condemned color bar in trade unions, the Ku Klux Klan, anti-foreign sentiment, anti-Semitism, railroad consolidations and racketeering in unions.

International officers of the Brotherhood are: A. Philip Randolph, president; M. P. Webster, Chicago, first vice-president; Bennie Smith, Detroit, second vice-president; E. J. Bradley, St. Louis, third vice-president; C. L. Dellums, Oakland, Cal., fourth vice-president; Ashley L. Totten, New York, secretary-treasurer; Thomas Patterson, secretary executive board; L. D. MacNeal, St. Louis, Ernest Smith, Chicago, and B. F. McLaurin, New York, field organizers.

PORTERS RE-ELECT RANDOLPH
ST. LOUIS GETS 1942 CONFAB

Pittsburgh Courier

Dues Are Raised in Order to Finance Expanded Organizational Program—Train and Car Porters to Be Included.

SEP 26 1940

Pitt., Pa.

By TED POSTON
(Staff Correspondent)
(See Pictures Page 13)

NEW YORK, Sept. 26.—A. Philip Randolph, the most influential Negro labor leader in America, was re-elected as president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters by acclamation here Friday as the union concluded its most successful convention in its fifteen years of existence.

The more than 100 delegates, representing 7,200 union members, also reelected all other international officers of the Brotherhood, including Milton P. Webster, Bennie Smith, E. J. Bradley and C. L. Dellums, first, second, third and fourth vice-presidents, respectively, and Ashley L. Totten, secretary-treasurer.

DELEGATES RAISE MONTHLY DUES

The delegates also decided that the next biennial convention will be held in St. Louis, Mo., in 1942.

The election followed business sessions in which the delegates raised the monthly dues of the Brotherhood from $1.50 a month to $2. This rise was necessitated by the extensive organizational program which had been adopted for the next two years. The Brotherhood is now seeking to organize the several hundred train and car porters over which the A. F. of L. gave them jurisdiction in 1939. A $2 convention assessment was also voted.

The fifteenth anniversary convention came to a close Friday night with a gala dance and festival at the Golden Gate Ballroom, attended by hundreds of porters, maids, attendants and their guests. During the week, the delegates had been addressed by every leading official of the State and city as well as by William Green and other A. F. of L. officials.

CELEBRATION HELD AT WORLD'S FAIR

On Thursday, President Randolph and Vice-President Webster had addressed the delegates and visitors at Brotherhood Day at the New York World's Fair. Charles Zimmer, director of the Division of Labor Statistics of the United States Department of Labor, addressed the group on behalf of Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins, who had been forced to cancel her scheduled address in order to attend the funeral of Speaker Bankhead.

Tuesday morning, Governor Herbert H. Lehman greeted the delegates at the 137th Street Y.W.C.A., and urged them to support the President's National Defense Program.

MRS. ROOSEVELT ALSO SPEAKS

The highlight of the convention, however, was the labor banquet at Mecca Temple on 55th street, where Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, Mayor Fiorello H. LaGuardia, Lieut. Gov. Charles Poletti, NYA Administrator Aubrey Williams, James C. Quinn, secretary of the Central Trades and Labor Council, and other dignitaries, addressed the Brotherhood delegates and guests.

Mrs. Roosevelt, introduced by Mrs. Bethune, as the "personification of democracy," urged the porters to co-operate in the National Defense Program, and praised the leadership of Negro youth groups in which she has been interested.

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CALIFORNIA

Negro Wage Earners' Problems To Be Principle In CIO Drive. States Cayton

SAN FRANCISCO — Special attention to the problems of Negro wage-earners will be a guiding principle of the great organizing drive which the CIO has launched in California, according to Revels Cayton, Vice-president of the Industrial Union Council of this city.

"We intend to carry out the program outlined by John L. Lewis in his statement to the Negro press several weeks ago," Cayton said. "He said that a man's color should have nothing to do with his chance to earn a decent living, and that the principles of the Congress of Industrial Organization were in keeping with this idea.. Well, that is our idea out here in the West, too."

The Council official outlined some of the main tasks involved in organizing Negro workers and bringing them into the ranks of organized labor. He said that the suspicions of the labor movement distilled in the Negro people by long years of abuse and segregation at the hands of corrupt labor leaders were an important obstacle to overcome.

"The most important hurdle before us is the fact that Negroes have been kept out of jobs by the refusal of trade unionists to fight the employers' exclusion policy," he added. "In the past, whenever Negroes have been sent to a job and the employers have refused to accept them, their union officials have surrendered to this policy. But it's different now. White trade unionists are beginning to realize that if this state of affairs continues, it will turn thousands of Negro workers against the unions and create a state of mind which the employers can exploit whenever they need strike-breakers."

Cayton discussed how the problem had been handled in the Marine Cooks and Stewards Union, where he first became active in trade union affairs as patrolman on the San Francisco waterfront. He said the union discovered that if it capitulated to the employer, its membership would be broken up. Consequently, it adopted the policy of refusing to supply other men to the ships whose officers refused to accept Negro or Oriental employees.

More than ever, Cayton said, the new CIO organizational drive will come as a boon to the Negro people. He saw Negroes as the "keenest sufferers" from the war preparations which have resulted in higher living costs and lower relief expenditures.

"Thousands of Negros in California have been deprived of a livelihood because of President Roosevelt's budget cuts," he declared, "while the increased industrial activity which was supposed to follow the so-called 'war boom' has failed to materialize. In addition, living costs have been increasing by leaps and bounds, and unless strong unions are able to fight for and win increased wages to equalize the rise in living costs, thousands of Negro families will have to go without the necessaries of life."

Maritime Workers Gather In Oregon

SAN FRANCISCO—Revels Cayton, secretary-treasurer of District Council No. 2, Maritime Federation of the Pacific, led the powerful San Francisco delegation to the third annual convention of the Maritime Federation of the Pacific, held in Astoria, Oregon, June 3.

Revels Cayton

The Maritime Federation of the Pacific represents 40,000 organized maritime workers, many of whom are members of the Race. Revels Cayton, himself a seaman, has been a ranking official in the maritime unions for the past six years and is at present one of the dominating personalities on the Pacific coast.

May Force White Union Members To State Position On Color Question

Stormy Session in San Francisco Breaks Up as Negroes Threaten to Withdraw Following 'Pussy-foot' Attitude of Whites.

SAN FRANCISCO, Calif., March 28.—White members of San Francisco's International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union, Local 1-10, were reluctant and hesitant as to where they stood on the color question at a special meeting here last week, called at the request of Negro members, and the stormy session which lasted two and a half hours, which broke up with Negro longshoremen threatening to withdraw from the organization.

Solidity of the union obviously hung in a balance this week as Negro members prepare to wage a bitter fight against Bob Boyce and five other white members, whom it is charged publicly rebuked the Negroes in San Pedro, Calif., recently when they were sent there to work with other longshoremen.

RACE MEMBERS SCORED FOR "RADICAL" VIEWS

Emphatic condemnation was hurled against the reception they received from Boyce and his cohorts when they arrived for work. It is charged that the white workers scored the Negroes for their alleged "radical" views and spread harmful propaganda throughout San Pedro and the union, aimed directly against their welfare.

Those who were refused the right to work and labeled as Communists by the white workers were: Albert Johnson, Leon Chevalier, J. Smalley, James Cook and H. Smith.

Further criticism was leveled at white members of the Union when the race workers revealed that they were refused food at a restaurant named "The Ark," where they went to eat and that approximately twenty San Francisco longshoremen sat by and refused to come to their aid.

The Negroes also declared that when they finally were permitted to work, the white members of the union threatened to call "job action" and tie up the ship because they did not want to work with them.

AGENT FAILS TO ACT WHEN ASKED

Determined to stop the "all-white" movement, the race workers appealed to their agent, Phil Sandin who, according to the charges failed to act upon the case, apparently willing to let it die out.

Asserting that Sandin wilfully overlooked their case, Negro members accused white fellow-workers of disloyalty and stated that mutual concessions and co-operation within the organization was decidedly lacking.

The controversy split the union into two factions. One group is attempting to suppress it, while the other, led by Hugh Smith, including many white workers, is forcing the issue.

No action was taken at the last meeting, mainly because the accused members refused to take a definite stand. According to the rules of procedure, it should be up for consideration at the next meeting.

Meantime, however, it is charged that the executive board is trying to pigeon-hole the fiery issue.

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CALIFORNIA

Roosevelt's Longest Telegram!

Mirror 1-3-40

San Francisco—(CNA)—President Roosevelt was asked in the "longest telegram in the world" this week to intervene for defeat of a bill to deport Harry Bridges, California CIO director. Seventeen thousand Pacific Coast residents, white and Negro, signed the message, to be delivered on a paper roll 425 feet long. Signers paid five cents to defray the $400 cost.

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CIVIL RIGHTS FEDERATION

Mich. Negro Paper Backs Civil Rights Conference

Editorial Warns of Rising War Hysteria as Threat To Liberties; Lashes at Anti-Negro 'Patriots' and 'Traitor' Shouters

(Special to the Daily Worker)

DETROIT, Feb. 5.—Declaring that "the rights of minorities and the rights of the individual have been violated in the name of self-defense and American peace," the Michigan Chronicle, a Negro weekly, in its editorial for Feb. 3 said the state-wide conference called by the Civil Rights Federation for February 9, will be of supreme importance for Negro citizens. Daily Worker

The editorial reflects the strong labor sentiment of Negroes and lashes out at the Red-baiting, reactionary forces seeking to rob the people of their democratic rights, and warns that: New York, N.Y.

"The hysteria brought upon us by reverberations of the conflict in Europe has stimulated the crackpots of the country and given rise to a feverish patriotism, less patriotism than fever. 2-6-40

"Unemployment and our domestic problems have added to the social storm and stress. In this confusion there is evidence of forces at work which are inimical to democracy, forces which would destroy the principles and ideals underlying our popular government. It is time, in short, when the weak and underprivileged may easily be crushed in the rush of big events.

THE FINGER POINTERS

"The rights of minorities and the rights of the individual have been violated in the name of self-defense and American Peace. It is dangerous to hold an opinion not shared by a leader who points his finger and yells traitor. A Negro who wants better housing and higher wages is pictured as a Communist

If you object to discrimination in the Army and Navy, based on color you are un-American. In the interest of the preservation of our freedom, the Civil Rights Federation believes a great step forward can be made by calling together those who suffer from such injustices. We Negroes of Detroit should be represented by the thousands for we can bear witness to injustices unknown to other groups."

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C.I.O.

Negroes Employed In New Jersey Shipyard

DEC 28 1940

Courier Pittsburgh Pa.

NEWARK, N. J., Dec. 26—(ANP)—According to an announcement by George White, financial secretary of the IUMSWA, local 16, CIO, there are more than 600 skilled and unskilled Negro workers employed in the Federal shipbuilding and Dry Dock Co., located at Harrison, N. J.

These Negro workers perform all sorts of work from laborers to the highly paid riveters. Wages range from 62½ cents per hour to $1.00 per hour.

Robeson Advises Negro Auto Workers Join CIO

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

Famed Negro Singer, a Former Bricklayer, Waiter, Says in Interview Democracy Cannot Exist Without Labor Unions; Condemns Henry Ford

DEC 17 1940

DETROIT, Dec. 16 (FP).—"Join the CIO," was Paul Robeson's advice to the Negro workers in the Ford plant and other industries as he gave an interview in Detroit to Ford Facts, the special organizing tabloid of the CIO United Automobile Workers Union.

Talking in his hotel after a song recital, the eminent Negro singer made his points without reservation.

"It would be unpardonable," he said, "for Negro workers to fail to join the CIO. I don't see how that can be argued. If Negroes fail to do that they classify themselves as scab labor. Negroes cannot be a part of American democracy except through labor unions. Democracy can't exist without labor movements."

WAS BRICKLAYER, WAITER

Robeson speaks of Negro workers from personal experience. He was a bricklayer and waiter and iceman before he gained international fame as a singer.

Because of the special effort to Ford Motor Co. is making to keep Negro employes from joining the UAW-CIO, Robeson's comment on its anti-union policy has additional weight. He told Ford Facts:

"It is astounding to me that a man like Ford and such a large industry as the Ford Motor Co. have been able to operate in a democracy and not have to deal with the labor movement."

Possibly with Ford and other reactionary employers in mind, Robeson concluded:

"In the United States today there is a terrific effort going on to take away the all too few rights of labor. If that happens the Negroes, who have the fewest rights, will suffer most."

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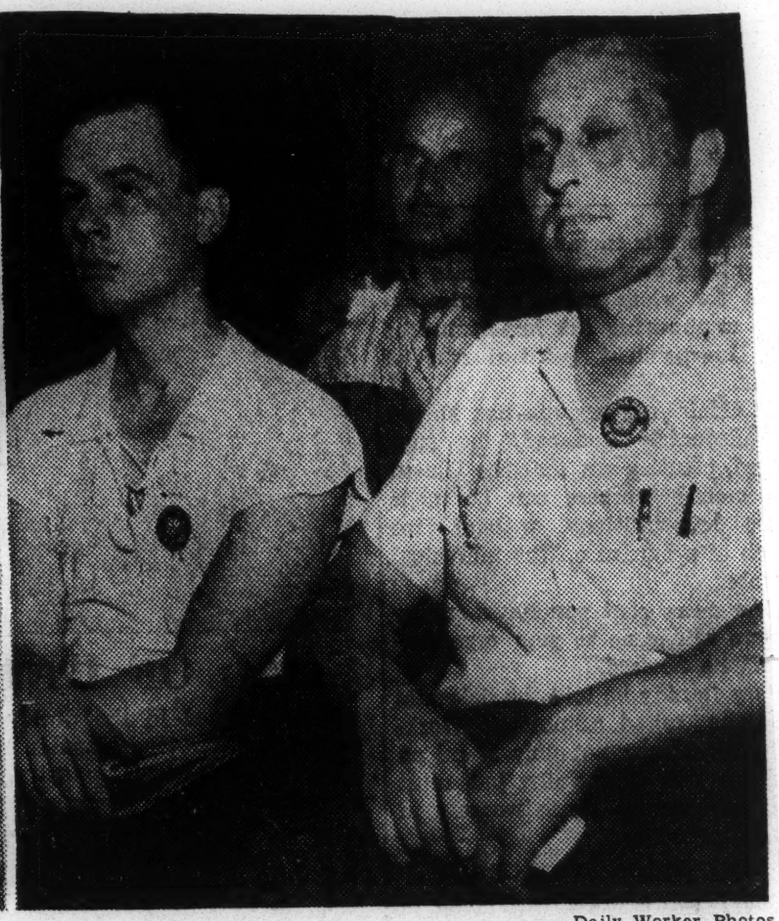
1940

C.I.O.



—Daily Worker Photos

Daily Worker 2-31-40

MEET TO KEEP U. S. FREE

New York

Among 500 delegates who met at Town Hall Monday night on call of the Conference of Inalienable Rights. They voiced opposition to compulsory conscription, to use of the Anti-Trust Act against Labor and to the anti-alien registration bill. Shown above are members of International Fur and Leather Workers Union, of CIO, among them Lynden Henry, outstanding Negro leader and business agent of Local 80; the other photo shows members of the Local 3 Brotherhood of Electrical Workers of the A. F. of L., wearing their 30-hour week buttons.

CIO Union Wins Back Pay for 32 Negroes

Daily Worker
8-31-40

Processing Workers Also Force Denver Firm to Reinstate 3

New York

WASHINGTON, Aug. 30 (FP).—Two important victories for agricultural processing workers have been won by the United Cannery Agricultural Packing & Allied Workers (CIO).

In Memphis the union's action forced the Dixie Pickery to reinstate with $4,000 back pay 32 Negroes who were fired after they refused to sign affidavits waiving back pay claims due them under the wage-hour law.

In Denver the NLRB, acting on a UCAPAW complaint, ordered the Great Western Mushroom Co. to reinstate with back pay three workers fired for union activity and to cease unfair labor practices. The firm had claimed exemption from the law.

The board also called upon the company to rehouse two workers who had been evicted from company houses, to repay them the rent paid since their eviction, and to end the no-strike contracts which each worker was forced to sign.

CIO Condemns Any Form Of Race Bar

John L. Lewis Says

OCT 5 1940

Negro Labor
News

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"I should like to take this occasion to express to you my own personal and official support of the efforts of your committee to prevent discrimination against Negroes in the National Defense program. The C. I. O. and Labor's Non-Partisan League have already carried on much work in cooperation with the National Negro congress in behalf of such a position.

CIO Forbids Color Bar

"The CIO has always been strongly opposed to discrimination against Negroes. It has not only stated such opposition, but it has refused to allow such discrimination to arise within its own ranks.

Texas

"Similarly, the CIO believes that the Negro people should not be discriminated against when they offer their services in the national defense. The army, the navy, and other public services should be open on an equal basis to all Americans regardless of race, creed of color. You may be sure that I and other representatives of the CIO will do everything possible to see that such a policy is established and implemented by the United States government. There can never be a fully effective defensive established for our nation until all citizens have equal opportunity to participate without distinction.

CIO Head Against Discrimination In Defense Program

Black Dispatch
Oklahoma City
Okla.

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CIO Head Against Defense Jim Crow

SEP 29 1940

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Dies Starts Smear Drive On Jersey CIO

OCT 2 1940

Probe Supposedly Aimed at Bund, KKK and Recent Blasts

(Special to the Daily Worker)

NEWARK, Oct. 1.—The Dies Committee hearings which began today, ostensibly on the German-American Bund, Ku Klux Klan and the recent Hercules Powder Co. explosion, was steered against the CIO unions from the very start.

The star witness of the day was Walter M. Appleby, secretary of the company organization in the yards of the Sun Shipbuilding and Drydock Co., a chemist employed by the firm.

He was put on the stand to tell the committee that Local 2 of the Industrial Union of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers, CIO, was controlled by "Communists" and of the results of his "investigation" on sabotage activities at the plant. He said that hose lines which carry inflammable fluids were found cut 63 times. Appleby described several other similar cases which he said was the work of saboteurs.

The presence in the waiting room of a lineup of other company stooges of the Sun plant and of the Kearney plant of the Federal Drydock Co. gave clear indication that the hearings here are aimed primarily against CIO unions, with a sprinkling of Bund witnesses to be thrown in for effect.

Rep. J. Parnell Thomas, New Jersey's notorious labor-hater and red-baiter, was the stage manager of today's hearing. Rep. Joseph Starnes of Alabama presided. Rep. Jerry Voorhis of Calif. was the third committeeman present.

Observing the hearings was a committee of the New Jersey State Industrial Union Council, CIO, including its President William J. Carney and secretary-treasurer Leonard Goldsmith. They said they intend to look out for the committee's usual smearing attacks against the CIO.

"They may hear some witnesses on the Bund for a day or two and then they'll go into their usual smearing of the labor movement," Goldsmith said as hearings got under way.

He had less than a "day or two" to wait, however, as company anti-CIO stooges began to take the stand.

The promised inquiry into the Bund and its Camp Nordland, located near the Hercules Power Co. plant where recently a joint meeting with the KKK was held appears to have been shoved into the background.

C. I. O. Electrical Union Seeks To Stop Industry's Prejudice Against Negro

NOV 1 1940

New York—In one of the most far-reaching actions taken by any labor union in the country, the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America, a C. I. O. affiliate, has pledged itself the task of working out "a practical program in the direction of eliminating discrimination against Negro workers in our industry, whether this discrimination be covert or in the open."

The action which followed passage of a resolution at the union's sixth convention held in Cleveland, Ohio, last September, which said in part: "It has always been the policy of our union and the C. I. O. particularly, to fight against discrimination against Negro people or any other race, because we know that the white workers' Negroes that the employment of colored workers will not occasion the type of difficulty indicated by employers.

"In addition to its significance to the all-important problem of employment, it is also pertinent to the problem of vocational training for Negroes for the national defense. With the support of organized labor, it should be possible for local communities and State departments of vocational education to expand appreciably the opportunities for Negro trainees under the current programs."

CIO, A.F. Of L. Unions To Assist Negroes In Defense Employment

NOV 7 1940

The American Federation of Labor and the Congress of Industrial Organizations have both agreed to assume responsibility for seeing that Negro workers are not discriminated against in national defense employment, it was announced this week by Sidney Hillman in charge of the Labor Division for the National Defense Advisory Commission.

This important development in the Commission's program of integrating Negro skilled and unskilled workers into the defense activities was revealed by Dr. Robert C. Weaver, administrative assistant in the Division of Labor Supply, in a conference with Lester B. Granger, assistant executive secretary of the National Urban League, and representatives of local Urban Leagues.

According to Dr. Weaver, both the A.F. of L. and C.I.O. have assured Sidney Hillman, Labor Commissioner, that trade unions affiliated with the two influential labor organizations will carry out the Commission's non-discrimination labor policy stipulation that "Workers should not be discriminated against because of age, sex, race or color."

The assurances were obtained as the result of a series of conferences between Hillman, Dr. Weaver, and representatives of the A.F. of L. and the C.I.O.

In revealing the development, Dr. Weaver said:

"One of the largest obstacles to securing equitable employment opportunities for Negroes in the defense program has been the contention of employers that the introduction of Negro skilled and unskilled workers would lead to serious labor difficulties and reduce efficiency because of the resentment of white labor.

"This statement of policy adopted by the American Federation of Labor and the Congress of Industrial Organizations indicates that organized labor does not intend to be an impediment to increased occupational opportunities for Negroes. It reaffirms the statements repeatedly made by cannout advance our brothers are held back, no matter what their race or color may be."

This program of action outlined in the resolution, which was made public by the N. A. A. C. P. following receipt of a letter from Julius Emspak, general secretary-treasurer of the union, includes the following points:

"Working actively towards the end so that more Negro workers are hired in industries where the U. E. has contracts; making a survey of Negro U. E. members, to find out as to their positions in the industry, and taking steps to improve them; carrying on an educational campaign in cooperation and with the aid of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the National Negro congless and other Negro organizations whose aid we can succeed in getting, and who are recognized as Negro organizations, the aim of this educational work to be a greater understanding of the Negro question, and an increased fraternal spirit between all of our members, no matter what race, creed or color they may be."

Greenville, S. C. Observer
May 3, 1940

Bold Bid For Negro Vote Tells Story

LABOR LEADER INVITES NEGRO CONGRESS

John L. Lewis tacitly admitted this week that the cause of the CIO in the South is hopeless, Washington observers believe.

The admission underlines every phrase in a scorching denunciation of Southern opponents of the anti-lynching bill in Congress which Lewis delivered before a convention of the National Negro Congress in Washington.

Lewis made a strong bid for negro membership in the CIO, citing examples of how his labor organization has thrown down the color line and insisted that negro and white workers labor side by side.

Knowing that his organization has been discredited by the white workers of the South, Lewis chose in the speech, which brought shouted cheers from the assembled negroes, to urge passage of the anti-lynching bill and repeal of the poll-tax laws as a means of obtaining a larger negro vote.

Lewis condemned the work of J. Edgar Hoover in his work against Communists and other subversive elements. He spoke in angry tones of President Roosevelt, of whom he said "he is attempting to direct the nation's thought toward war instead of domestic problems."

In espousing the Negro Congress, Lewis carried out his threat of two months ago, when he said he would organize Negroes, Townsend old-age pension-seekers and members of the National Youth Congress, an organization of communist-dominated youths, into a coalition with his CIO. The purpose was to seek political unity in a new party, he said at the time.

Already Lewis has worked out an arrangement with the Youth Congress, and he announced that he will address the Townsend group in the summer.

Lewis' long and violent speech to the negro organization precipitated an upheaval in the convention. The negroes voted to accept Lewis's invitation next day by an overwhelming majority, and also voted to accept several contributions from the Communist party, but they did so over the protest of A. Philip Randolph, president of the congress since its organization. Randolph resigned from the congress, warning the negroes that a tie-up with Lewis and the communists was unhealthy. "Wherever you get your money," he said, "you get your ideas and control."

Meanwhile, William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, was charging before a congressional committee that Lewis is seeking to organize negroes and unemployed groups into a political party in order to make himself dictator of the country.

Lewis' statement on the subject would seem clear enough. He said Friday: "In this same hall in February I extended an invitation to the National Youth Congress—To the National Negro Congress I would extend the same invitation to affiliate—that our common purposes may better be attained."

Atlanta, Ga. Journal
April 27, 1940

LEWIS URGES NEGROES TO AID HIM IN POLITICS

Amon Carter Movement Aimed at Defeat Of Roosevelt, Ickes Letter Charges

WASHINGTON, April 27.—(AP)—With an appeal to the organized Negroes of the nation to come in under his political banner, John L. Lewis took another step Saturday toward what he obviously hopes will be an influential position in the presidential campaign.

In the same hall where he beckoned the American Youth Congress to his support last February, the CIO leader Thursday night invited the National Negro Congress to consider a working agreement of affiliation with labor's Nonpartisan League, the political organization which he heads.

He charged that the Democratic administration had failed to fulfill its 1936 platform pledge to provide jobs for the unemployed.

Cheering broke out among the delegates and visitors in the auditorium—estimated to number 3,000—when he said:

"I want the help of the Negroes of this country. I want their help and their co-operation with the labor movement of America."

John P. Davis, secretary of the congress which heard Lewis, estimated that it represented 3,000,000 Negroes, or one-fifth of the Negro population.

From its president, A. Philip Randolph, the Congress heard that the Communist party was not concerned with labor and the Negro, that the Republican party was "no longer a progressive force," and that the Democratic party was "no better."

Lews' speech shared attention with a story in the Washington Post saying that Secretary Ickes had written Amon G. Carter, publisher of the Fort Worth, Texas, Star-Telegram and a Garner-for-President supporter:

"The movement, in which you are such a shining light, is not for the nomination of any particular man. It is to defeat Roosevelt."

Still another development was a statement by Senator Wheeler (Democrat, Montana), a Democratic presidential aspirant in case President Roosevelt does not run, that he was opposed to the United States getting into the European war "now, after the election, or any other time."

Governor Arthur H. James, of Pennsylvania delivered last night the first major address since he has been mentioned as a possible Republican presidential nominee.

Speaking in Indianapolis before the Indiana Republican Editorial Association, James denounced the New Deal and declared the 1940 standard bearer of his party "must be a man of courage and conviction."

Durham, N. C. Morning Herald
April 28, 1940

JOHN LEWIS AND HIS FLOCK

John Lewis' open appeal to the Negroes of America to make "common cause" with his C.I.O. forces in political action, for one thing, is partial fulfillment of his earlier promise to show the do-nothing political leaders by welding labor, "liberal" farm organizations, youth, old-age groups and Negroes into a powerful political unit capable of calling the turn in the 1940 elections.

Presumably he plans to follow through with appeals to the other named groups and then try for an inter-organization convention.

It is possible, hardly probable, that Mr. Lewis will make some headway. Our guess, though, is that he'll make lots of noise and cause critics to make still more noise and wind up a wiser but less influential political boss.

One great difficulty Mr. Lewis appears to have recognized and at the same time ignored is that in this 1940 election he says he is going to call the tunes. and the choice is going to be, for all practical purposes, between the Democratic and Republican tickets. Already he has announced that he expects nothing of the Republicans and threatened to walk out on the Democrats unless they submit to his dictation, as to nominee and platform.

So assuming that he can and will recruit the assorted groups he mentions under one banner, what can he accomplish with them and how can he accomplish whatever good he thinks he can?

If he expects nothing of the Republicans, he certainly wouldn't lead his "balance of power" groups into that camp. If the Democrats refuse to accept his orders, which they are almost certain to do, he promises not to play with them, which leaves him the rocky and lonesome road of a third party. But what can he hope to gain in the way of political action for improving the economic status of the nation's masses by leading his forces into a camp that has neither candidate, program nor hope of victory on election day?

Plainly, what Mr. Lewis is trying to do is disentangle his voting forces from alliances with entrenched political groups on the one hand and on the other use his political strength to wrangle concessions from one or both of the major political groups.

Gen. Hugh Johnson and others insist that is the proper tack for labor leaders and we are not in total disagreement.

But the labor leader who starts out to play that game exposes his hand, wrecks his strategy and throws away his trading position when his first move is one that rules out one major political party and hurls an untenable threat at the other. And that is so nearly what Mr. Lewis has done that to argue the point is to split hairs.

However, considered as a symptom, which it really is, Mr. Lewis' proclaiming, appealing and threatening is something all of us, entrenched political leaders especially, might well ponder and try to diagnose.

If conditions, economic, social and political, were as political leaders, the "ins" and the "outs," repeatedly have promised to make them, there would be no audience to which appealers like John Lewis could appeal. But conditions are not in line with what has been promised and John Lewis is making appeals because he has an audience inclined to listen.

Columbia, S. C., Free Press
April 26, 1940

Daughter of C.I.O. Head Appeals For Negro Support

Kathryn Lewis, daughter of John L. Lewis, national leader of the C.I.O., shows her preference for Negro society in two pictures recently made at Washington. One of the pictures shows her seated between two Negro men at a Negro banquet given in the national capital in honor of the secretary of the National Negro Congress. This picture appeared in The Pittsburgh Courier of March 23rd, and the other picture appears in the magazine Time of April 8th, and shows her marching with a Negro man in a picket line before a Washington cafeteria.

The Free Press reproduces this picture showing the C.I.O. leader's daughter seated at the Negro banquet table talking with A. Philip Randolph, a prominent Negro newspaper writer.

This picture should surely make the great mass of textile workers in South Carolina stop and think before they line up with the C.I.O. and give their support to a man who allows his daughter to attend Negro banquets and who wants to put whites and negroes in the same unions in South Carolina, and who is doing this in other parts of the United States.

Trying to Mislead Workers.

Organizers from other states are now busy in South Carolina trying to mislead the people in the great textile industry to join and support the C.I.O. and its negro-equality policy, backed by John L. Lewis. Although defeated at Columbia in the Pacific Mills strike last fall and headed for defeat in the Columbia Mills bargaining agency negotiations, the C.I.O. is fighting desperately to stir up more trouble in the hope of fooling the workers and signing up some of the workers.

Gangster tactics are being used by the C.I.O. leaders in West Columbia. Men are being set upon by small gangs of C.I.O. members and forced into signing up and suffering beatings and possible death.

The picture shown on this page should convince the American white workers in South Carolina that they want no part of the C.I.O. It is a dangerous thing for the textile people to touch. It means bitterness, hatred and trouble.

FIGHT ON A F L BIAS PLEDGED BY GREEN

Brotherhood Also Goes on Record to Break Down Army, Navy, Air Force Ban.

SEP 21 1940

By TED POSTON
(Staff Correspondent)

NEW YORK, Sept. 19.—Bitterly flaying the Soviet Union, along with Nazi Germany and Fascist Italy, the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters voted to bar all Communists from office or committee membership in the union, in a series of resolutions adopted by the Biennial Convention here this week.

Equally startling was the pledge of William Green, A. F. of L. president, Sunday that the American Federation of Labor has been commited to wage an unrelenting fight on racial prejudice.

Green's speech was delivered to 2,500 Pullman porters and delegates at Salem M.E. Church, opening the convention. A larger number than those who filled the church to capacity, had been turned away by the police.

The A. F. of L. official also pledged the support of 5,000,000 Federation members for passage of the Federal anti-lynching bill and for legislation to abolish the poll tax in eight Southern States.

RESOLUTIONS LASH OUT AT "FIFTH COLUMN"

Lashing out at the "Fifth Column," trojan horse and transmission belt activities of the Communists, Nazis and Fascists, the resolutions adopted by the International Executive Board, and approved later by the more than 100 delegates, declared: "It is the general and iron-clad religious habit and policy of Communists to follow the dictates and line of the Communist party, which requires them to subordinate and sacrifice the interests of the trade union or any organization, regardless of what it is, to the interests of the Communist party, which is only and solely interested with the strengthening and consolidation of the foreign policy of Soviet Russia."

Other resolutions pledged support to the National Defense Program, but called for support of the Courier fight to abolish bans against Negroes in the Army, Navy and Air forces of this country.

The delegates, representing 7,200 be made to break down bars in various departments of the Navy, Army and Air Corps, inasmuch as the Negro people have shed their blood on every battlefield upon which the flag of America has been raised, from the War of Independence to Flanders Field."

COLOR BARS IN TRADE UNIONS CONDEMNED

Negro unions and organizations were urged to seek adequate representation on local draft boards. The union called for immediate passage of the Federal anti-lynching bill, and urged the Department of Justice to prosecute the rising Ku Klux Klan. Anti-semitism and other intolerances were scored as were poll-tax restrictions and all-white primaries.

Color bars in all trade unions were condemned, and opposition was expressed to the Pullman Porters-Conductors bill now pending in Congress, to prevent porters from running "in charge" of cars organized members of the Brotherhood, resolved that "Special efforts

CIO Union To Try To Halt Discrimination

Far-Reaching Action Taken By Electrical Group

NOV 16 1940

NEW YORK CITY— (ANP) — The United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America, an affiliate of the C. I. O., has pledged itself to the task of working out a "practical program in the direction of eliminating discrimination be covert or in the open."

This is one of the most far-reaching actions taken by any labor union in the country. From the program of action outlined by the group at one of its recent meetings comes the following excerpt:

TO MAKE SURVEY

"Working actively towards the end so that more Negro workers are hired in industries where they are prepared to work, to make a survey of egro U. E. members, to find out as to their position in the industry, and taking steps to improve them; carrying on an educational campaign in cooperation and with the aid of the AACP, the National Negro Congress and other Negro organizations whose aid we can succeed in gettinfi, and who are recognize das Negro organizations, the ai mof this educational work is to be a greater understanding of the Negro question, and an increasing fraternal spirit between all of our members, no matter what race, creed, or color they may be."

Washington CIO Hits Jim Crow Air Corps Affecting Members

(Special to the Daily Worker) DEC 5 1940

WASHINGTON, Dec. 4.—Jim Crow policies of the Roosevelt administration which resulted in the refusal of the army to accept a Washington Negro, member of the CIO, into the Air Corps were condemned here in a resolution of the Washington Industrial Union Council.

Fair Enough

By Westbrook Pegler

Minority Rights

IT REALLY does no good to argue with those who are devoted to the C. I. O., because they start from the premise that majority rule cancels minority rights and that organized labor must engage in politics. Anyone who does not concede these things as a beginning is a Fascist.

But I hold that even a standpat or reactionary Republican has rights and that if he is forced to join a C. I. O. union he ought not be compelled to contribute the tiniest fraction of his union dues to the support of the Democratic ticket. He should not be forced even to lend that much money for that purpose. That means that the C. I. O. has no right to give or lend any money to any political party or movement unless there is entire unanimity in the whole organization. It means, further, that the C. I. O. and its component unions have no right to indorse the New Deal, for example, or the ham 'n' eggs plan or the Spanish Loyalists cause, the indorsement of which did cause serious trouble in the Newspaper Guild, as long as there is a single dissenting vote.

Minority Rights Are Overruled

ANYONE WHO maintains the right of the C. I. O. or any component union to indorse any of these things by majority vote places no limit on the variety of things that may be indorsed in this way. The majority could indorse atheism, for example, or free love, and contribute to campaign funds for these purposes, in which case dissenters would have to choose between losing their right to work and the sacrifice of their principles. The majority could indorse the Communist ticket and contribute to the Communist campaign fund, thus forcing dissenters to support a movement which they held to be traitorous. The C. I. O. has no right to declare for or against propositions which are matters of morals or religious or partisan faith while insisting on the right to compel people to join its ranks. If membership were optional the sky would be the limit. The majority then could indorse to their hearts' content and give the entire union treasury to any cause favored by 51 per cent of the members. The minority could get out.

Every man should be free to dissociate himself from any organization which is striving for aims that violate his conscience. But membership is not optional. Thus thousands of Americans are compelled to join in order to obtain or hold jobs, and the C. I. O. would force them to contribute their membership in an organization at war with their beliefs.

Members Forced Into Partisan Politics

IT ISN'T necessary for the C. I. O. to take this position at all. It could go back to its original and only legitimate purposes, but it seems very unlikely that it ever will, because the zealots in the movement, not all of whom are Communists, by their very zeal control the policies.

It is a political movement, if not yet a party, which claims and, with the help of the National Government, enforces a legal right to compel citizens to join and pay or suffer economic ostracism. In other words, the Government, by authority of the Wagner act and the Labor Board, conscripts citizens into a political movement and makes them pay a tax to a private organization.

It takes no lawyer to realize that the first compulsion, the requirement that a citizen join a private organization, is wrong and a violation of the right of the individual. The Government has no more right to force a man to join a union and pay taxes to it than it has to require him to join the Elks, Moose, Epworth League, B'nai B'rith, Ancient Order of Hibernians or the Sons and Daughters of I Will Arise. Far from guaranteeing the union's coercive power, the Government should defend more vigorously the right of the individual citizen not to join any organization except, in certain dire circumstances, the armed forces of the United States.

Government Control Is Poor Alternative

THAT IS the simplest and only honest solution of a question that causes almost homicidal wrangles between men. The next best solution, paradoxically, is much worse. That alternative is to use Government authority to prevent unions from engaging in political activity or mixing commitments and contributions outside the narrow, legitimate range of union aims.

The C. I. O. would call this a Fascist argument, but I submit that the C. I. O. is much more Fascistic or, if you will, Communistic, there being no difference between one and the other.

The OBSERVER

By CHAS. P. HOWARD,

C.I.O.-NEGRO TIE UP

DES MOINES, Iowa—(HNS)—

There is no question but what the program of John L. Lewis, famous head of the C.I.O., includes the marshalling of the Negro voters of this country in the same camp with the Committee of Industrial Organization. Some of those politically wise, claim that the combination of the two forces under one banner can make or break either of the major political parties; stated otherwise, neither party can be successful in the camp without those forces.

HOWARD

The Negro in this country prior to the advent of Lewis and the C.I.O. organization had positively received a lousy deal from Organized Labor. I admit that there has been some improvement under the Lewis banner but whether or not the improvement has been sufficient to justify our joining with labor is a very debatable question. I doubt seriously at this time if anyone can lead any appreciable number of Negro voters under the Lewis banner. The Negro too well remembers what Organized Labor has done to him.

I have this date just listened to a report that John P. Davis, leading force in the National Negro Congress, spoke encouragement to the friendliness to Communistic program of the Negroes Russia. We admit that there are some things about Communistic Russia that may not be so distasteful to the Negro, but heavens knows the bulk of it is.

The sum and substance of all this is that I doubt seriously if the Negro can be lead into a tie up under the Lewis banner and the more communistic influences that are brought to bear in this direction; the more difficult will be the effort.

SENATOR BARKLEY SQUAWKS

Senator Alvin W. Barkley, (D), Kentucky, majority leader reputedly never had time to talk to anybody about the future of the [redacted] Lynching Bill in the Senate. As majority leader it is his next move on the bill.

Walter White, astute leader of the NAACP forces, fighting for the passage of this bill, last week published in the Louisville Defender, a colored newspaper published in Senator Barkley's home state, a front page article with box car headlines, the whole story of the Senator's reprehensible conduct with reference to the bill. Result: Next day the Senator had the inclination and the time to write a four page letter both to Mr. White and the Louisville Defender trying to defend himself. Background: Negroes in Kentucky vote. No Senator is immune from pressure by the home folks. Result: Senator Barkley yet hasn't given any indication about bringing the bill up for a vote. Need: More pressure on the President Senator Barkley and your Senators.

Negro CIO Delegates Voice Issues of South

Daily Worker
New York N.Y.

Center Attention on Disfranchisement Through Poll-Tax, Opposition of People and Lynch Terror Which Still Holds Sway

NOV 23 1940

By Art Shields
(Daily Worker Staff Correspondent)

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J., Nov. 22.—Rank and file Negro workers moved CIO convention delegates deeply yesterday afternoon in a series of eloquent speeches against Southern disfranchisement, lynching and starvation.

These delegates represent the most shrunken of all the "fifty-two million shrunken bellies" of America that John L. Lewis pledged himself to fight for without tiring.

The Negro delegates—all comparatively new recruits to organized labor, who joined the ranks when the CIO broke down the color bars the craft unions had raised—called for a great labor crusade to emancipate the workers under the heel of the Bourbon Democrats of the South.

"We have to have some income, some time—that's why we fight for the CIO," said a frail, middle aged colored woman from Richmond, Virginia.

Mrs. Ella B. Betts, the speaker, represents 500 Negro tobacco stemmers, the poorest paid group in southern industry. She told a harrowing story of the starvation of unemployed Negro workers, denied all human rights.

VETERAN NEGRO SPEAKS

Boldest attack on the Southern Bourbons, however, came from a veteran Negro preacher and trade union leader—the Rev. Owen Whitfield, vice president of the United Cannery, Agricultural, Packing and Allied Workers.

Bent and gray in the struggle as he is, Whitfield is nevertheless a fine orator. And he spoke from the heart as he told how he had fought in the Argonne Forest, and returned to Arkansas and lynch rule.

"They stripped the buttons from my uniform;

"They tore the medal from my breast, for asking democracy when I got back," he told the convention.

"Now," the elderly preacher continued, "my two sons are being taken into the army. I hope you will fight to abolish the poll tax and lynching, so they will get some democracy when they come back home."

Rev. Whitfield said that the American flag should scream in protest against the crimes committed in the anti-democratic South.

Saying that the southern masses, Negroes and whites, were denied the right to vote in eight states, Rev. Whitfield added:

"I am tired of hearing the radio say that Mr. Roosevelt has the South solid, when only 25 per cent of the people are voting."

The anti-poll tax resolution would pass unanimously, that he knew, said Rev. Whitfield. But passing it wasn't enough.

"I want the CIO to concentrate on this fight to abolish the poll tax and free the Southern people," he went on.

Whitfield said that if the Southern workers were enfranchised they would be strengthened so much that they would spread the CIO from Missouri to the Gulf of Mexico.

And he pledged the convention that when the Southern workers got the vote they would soon have Pat Harrison, Senator Bilbo and the other enemies of Labor out of Washington.

BAR ON DEFFENSE JOBS

A white delegate from Birmingham followed with the warning that the abolition of the poll tax wasn't enough, that the rulers of the South had "Examination Boards" and other devices to keep Negroes from voting. The campaign must continue till all these barriers against democracy were swept away, he said.

A slim, eloquent Negro, Ewart Guinier, representing the State, County and Municipal Workers, sharply attacked the National Defense Commission for failing to protect the rights of Negroes to work in the war industries.

Negroes were now being barred from most of these jobs, he pointed out.

Like the other Negro speaker he closed with a fervent plea for the freedom of his people and he begged the officers of the CIO to carry a campaign against the poll tax, and lynching through "the length and breadth of the land."

Edward Callaghan, CIO representative from Chattanooga, Tennessee, a white man, said that he himself had to pay a poll tax of $2.41 to vote.

He urged support of the Geyer anti-poll tax bill and praised the work of the Southern Conference for Human Welfare.

John L. Lewis, CIO Chief, Points Way To Rejuvenation Of Republicanism

NOV 28 1940

JOHN L. LEWIS, CIO chief, gave the Republican leadership the key to a program which will bring the G.O.P. back to its founding principles; and, if it is forcefully used, will recapture the colored vote which the party needs so distressingly.

Philadelphia Tribune

One of the great American speeches was delivered by John Lewis last week at the C.I.O. conference in Atlantic City. The labor leader pulled no punches. He talked about a matter which most men in public life, for one reason or another, dodge with great fear. THE QUESTION OF THE BALLOT FOR THE DISFRANCHISED MILLIONS IN THE SOUTH SCARES MOST PUBLIC OFFICIALS TO DEATH.

But John Lewis in words any schoolboy could understand hit it, and hit it hard. He pointed to the glaring inequalities suffered by the rest of the nation because of the unfair powers possessed by the few pseudo-politicians of the south.

Philadelphia Pa.

So pleased are we with Mr. Lewis' attack on the disfranchisement of the masses of citizens in the South that we forgive him for placing the full blame for their disfranchisement on poll tax laws. Poll tax laws are only partially responsible. The dominant group, which exercises great power over the entire nation, does not stop with poll tax laws. THEY USE FORCE TO PREVENT CERTAIN CITIZENS FROM VOTING. THEY LYNCH PEOPLE WHO PROTEST TOO LOUDLY AGAINST THEIR DISFRANCHISEMENT. THOSE WHO CONTROL THE ELECTION MACHINERY REFUSE TO PERMIT CERTAIN CITIZENS TO VOTE. THAT IS COMMON KNOWLEDGE. CERTAIN PEOPLE ARE NOT PERMITTED TO PAY THE POLL TAX.

THE TRIBUNE believes that it is just as important for colored Americans to fight for the right to vote as it is for them to agitate for the privilege of joining the United States army and navy.

The Republican party in its 1940 platform pledged itself to universal suffrage for colored Americans. The party lost the national election. This newspaper supported the Republican party. We believe, therefore, that it is our high privilege to request that the Republican party live up to that plank in its platform by projecting this matter of disfranchisement before the Congress of the United States.

If the Republican party leadership is too timid to follow the lead of John Lewis in this matter; if they are too timid to fight for the principles upon which their party was founded, then they should get out of the party and let courageous men take the leadership.

Departure Of Labor Organizers Is Urged By Mayor Of Memphis

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — (AP) — Mayor Walter Chandler expressed the opinion early today that "immediate departure" of CIO organizers from Memphis "will be in the interest of peace and order."

The mayor, vacationing in Philadelphia, telegraphed The Commercial Appeal the statement in his comment on a letter written by David L. Clendenin, national secretary of the Workers' Defense League, to Chairman Edward J. Flynn, of the Democratic National Committee.

In the letter, Clendenin asserted George Bass, United Rubber Workers Union organizer, had been assaulted three times recently and that Mayor Chandler had said there was "nothing the mayor can do to give him protection." Bass has been working for the unionization of the Firestone Tire & Rubber Company plant here.

Clendenin brought in the name of E. H. Crump, of Memphis, national Democratic committeeman, by saying Crump's firm "is the insurance agent" for the Firestone Company.

Clendenin then asked Flynn "what do you propose doing, both personally and as an American citizen and politically as the chairman of the Democratic National Committee" about the situation.

Mayor Chandler's telegram to the paper:

"My attention has been called to preposterous letters from Clendenin to Chairman Flynn. E. H. Crump already on vacation when Firestone labor trouble arose, and subject never discussed with him. Police Department has given all proper protection to Bass and CIO organizers and no statement made that protection not possible or available. Ample warning given publicly that foreign labor agitators would not be welcome in Memphis and Bass invited trouble by remaining. He and other non-resident trouble makers can best protect themselves by leaving the city and their immediate departure will be in the interest of peace and order. No amount of political threat will avail CIO anything in Memphis.

(Signed)
"WALTER CHANDLER"

Labor For Roosevelt, Lewis Notwithstanding

NOV 2 1940

JOHN L. Lewis' switch from the Roosevelt to the Willkie bandwagon has resulted in a major rebellion in his own ranks. That is ample evidence that all working men are not of such short memory, or so ungrateful, or so ambitious for personal power, as the leader of the CIO.

Even the arch-Republican New York Herald-Tribune characterized Mr. Lewis' speech announcing his indorsement of Mr. Willkie as "a quintessential expression of the autocratic spirit," and feebly welcomed him as a new recruit.

Even pro-labor publications describe the reaction in CIO ranks in such terms as "overwhelming opposition to his indorsement . . . in high and lowly places throughout the the CIO."

Nothing in the relatively short history of the faction bossed by Mr. Lewis has equaled the upheaval created by his surprising support of the GOP candidate.

An undercurrent of unrest in the CIO may now break out into open warfare, with Mr. Lewis' continued domination of the organization seriously threatened.

Mr. Lewis set great store upon the liberalism of himself and his organization, but the head of one of his affiliated organizations commented sadly after his Friday night speech: "We regret the passing of Mr. Lewis from the liberal cause."

The AFL labor group seems to feel that Mr. Lewis had written his own epitaph, had "read himself out of the American labor movement," for they saw—and said so—that Mr. Lewis was betraying them by backing the candidate espoused by certain industrialists who have become regarded as the arch foes of labor. Discussions are even underway as to the possible successor to Mr. Lewis in the CIO.

NOV 2 1940

And why this uprising against an acknowledged leader? Because he had no mandate from his followers to speak as he did. Leadership without a following is empty. When he came to the crossroads, he and labor separated. But the break was as sure to come as sunrise.

Mr. Lewis' whole history is one of parting of the ways—with his own miners' union in Illinois, with William Green, with the AFL, and now with the rank and file of his own CIO. He hasn't brought peace, but turmoil. Many "labor disputes" have been only jurisdictional disputes—whether Lewis' CIO should boss or Green's AFL—wages, hours, and conditions of work being entirely out of the picture. He cannot endure those who decline to submit supinely to him—right or wrong.

He boasted Friday night that he had "bestowed" honors. Like a king, Mr. Lewis? In truth, his speech, its whole tone, was the quintessence of arrogance, not the humility of democracy so pronounced in truly great men.

* * * *

He broke with President Roosevelt solely because he wasn't "given the keys" to the White House. The President had tendered him just about everything else. President Roosevelt came into office realizing that the balance between labor and capital was uneven. He determined to adjust it. Under Mr. Roosevelt labor has made more gains than under any other single Chief Executive.

The President knew, however, that in a DEMOCRACY it is equally essential that capital's rights be protected as labor's. When, apparently, he declined to permit Mr. Lewis to bring about a different kind of inequality Mr. Lewis sulked.

But labor knows that collective bargaining is an established fact, that it can now sit down at the conference table with capital on terms of equality. And labor is still for Roosevelt.

It may regret that it cannot also be for Mr. Lewis, but labor knows who buttered its bread during a depression that was generated before Roosevelt and has been brilliantly attacked by Mr. Roosevelt. That is to labor's eternal credit.

Unions Pledge Fairness To Race In Jobs

Promise Boosts Chances For Defense Training

NOV 2 1940

(Reprinted from Last Week's Late Edition)

WASHINGTON, D. C. — The American Federation of Labor and the Congress of Industrial Organizations have both agreed to assume responsibility for seeing that Negro workers are not discriminated against in national defense employment, it was announced here Wednesday by Sidney Hillman, in charge of the labor division for the National Defense Advisory Commission.

DR. WEAVER

This important development in the commission's program of integrating Negro skilled and unskilled workers into the defense activities was revealed by Dr. Robert C. Weaver, administrative assistant in the division of labor supply, in a conference with Lester B. Granger, assistant executive secretary of the National Urban League and representatives of local Urban Leagues.

According to Dr. Weaver, both the A. F. of L. and C. I. O. have assured Labor Commissioner Sidney Hillman that trade unions affiliated with the two influential labor organizations will carry out the commission's non-discrimination labor policy stipulation that "Workers should not be discriminated against because of age, sex, race or color."

OBSTACLES OVERCOME

The assurances were obtained as the result of a series of conferences between Mr. Hillman, Dr. Weaver, and representatives of the A. F. of L. and C. I. O.

In revealing the development, Dr. Weaver said:

"One of the largest obtacles to securing equitable employment opportunities for Negroes in the defense program has been the contention of employers that the introduction of Negro skilled and unskilled workers would lead to serious labor difficulties and reduce efficiency because of the resentment of white labor.

"This statement of policy adopted by the American Federation of Labor and the Congress of Industrial Organizations indicates that organized labor does not intend to be an impediment to increased occupational opportunities for Negroes. It reaffirms the statements repeatedly made by Negroes that the employment of colored workers will not occasion the type of difficulty indicated by employers.

OTHER ADVANTAGES

"In addition to its significance to the all-important problem of employment, it is also pertinent to the problem of vocational training for Negroes for the national defense. With the support of organized labor, it should be possible for

local communities and state departments of vocational education to expand appreciably the opportunities for Negro trainees under the current programs."

Dr. Weaver stated that this is one of the first steps taken by the NDAC to put into effect its policy.

TO ADJUST COMPLAINTS

"It is especially important," he said, "because it is an instrument which will facilitate the employment of Negro labor with—rather than against—organized labor in America. Commissioner Hillman stressed this implication in his press conference."

The next step, he said, will be the setting up of machinery to handle specific complaints growing out of violations of the policy. This step is already being formulated.

Sharecroppers' Leader Attends CIO Confab

Courier Pittsburgh Pa.

NOV 23 1940

ST. LOUIS, Nov. 21—The Rev. Owen E. Whitfield, vice-president of the Agricultural United Canneries, Packing and Allied Workers Union, a CIO affiliate, left the city late Thursday, November 14, for Atlantic City, N.J., to attend the CIO Congress.

It will be recalled that the Rev. Mr. Whitfield led the sharecroppers of Southeastern Missouri in their epochal roadside demonstration against the iron-handed reign of the plantation owners in that section, an action that attracted nation-wide attention.

CIO ELECTRICAL UNION OUT TO STOP DISCRIMINATION

Courier Pittsburgh Pa.

NOV 16 1940

NEW YORK, Nov. 14. (ANP)—The United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America, an affiliate of the CIO, has pledged itself to the task of working out a "practical program in the direction of eliminating discrimination against Negro workers in our industry, whether this discrimination be covert or in the open."

This is one of the most far-reaching actions taken by any labor union in the country. From the program of action outlined by the group at one of its recent meetings, comes the following excerpt:

"Working actively towards the end so that more Negro workers are hired in industries where they are prepared to work, to make a survey of Negro U.E. members, to find out as to their position in the industry, and taking steps to improve them; carrying on an educational campaign in cooperation and with the air of the N.A.A.C.P., the National Negro Congress and other Negro organizations whose aid we can succeed in getting, and who are recognized as Negro organizations, the aim of this educational work is to be a greater understanding of the Negro question, and an increasing fraternal spirit between all of our members, no matter what race, creed, or color they may be."

John L. Lewis Urges Vote For Southern Negro

NOV 28 1940

Despite Thanksgiving, men going off to the draft, and the European war, people are still discussing spiritedly John L. Lewis' spirited address last week to the CIO Convention in Atlantic City. Deploring starvation in some sections of the country pointing out that 32 million people are still unemployed, and chiding labor for its own "bickering," Lewis also told his followers what is the "unfinished" task of American labor.

Among his pointed arguments were these, which took into consideration the political plight of Negroes and poor whites in the South, Mr. Lewis said:

Tribune

Perhaps at times we have concerned ourselves with trying to impose our opinions on the whole world with respect to the philosophies and political ideologies of the various countries before we put our own house in order. America's house is not in order. And I suggest now, as I have before publicly, that we could do a better job in acting as the moral perceptors of the world if we were able to show a definite home economy that took into consideration the rights and well being of all Americans.

Atlanta Pa.

You know in eight of our Southern States there are 10,500,000 Americans that cannot vote. That is a lot of Americans. Three and a half million of them are Negroes, but 7,000,000 of them are white. Yet they cannot vote because in order to vote they have to pay a cumulative poll tax and they cannot take the milk out of their children's mouths to pay that money because their basis of existence is so low and their subsistence is so pitiful that they cannot pay the economic penalty that is imposed upon them to attain the right to vote.

"of course that is why the poll tax is there—to prevent them from voting and to maintain a caste political control by a majority of property owners and pseudo politicians in our Southern States, who are thus elected by a small minority of the citizens of those States, a privileged minority who are property owners. They send their representatives to Washington to exercise an improper and unfair and outrageous control over the policies of the rest of the nation.

"Government by representation in the South? What are we going to do about it? It is just one of the things that need attention. Some of you may hope that the Democratic party will do something about it. Well, go and hope. But don't expect that that kind of hope will ever bring the right to vote to the 10,500,000 Americans in the Southern States who would like to have the same right that you have to vote.

NOV 28 1940

"To accomplish an objective of that character is one of the things for which this movement was founded and it is one of the unfinished jobs ahead of labor in America."

When Lewis Fell Negro Labor Lost

DEC 20 1940

Horace R. Cayton, formerly of Seattle, now of Chicago, labor expert and author, writing in the Pittsburg Courier, sees in the fall of John L. Lewis of the C. I. O. Negro labor's waning day. Cayton said:

Northwest

Most liberals throughout the country, have wasted few tears on John L. Lewis and feel that his argument with the President was personal and vindictive and that he is what he characterized Garner as being, "A mean whiskey drinking old man."

Enterprise

We, however, cannot dismiss Lewis in such terms, either from the point of view of one interested in the welfare of the general labor movement or as one interested in that special segment of labor which is black.

Seattle

The fact that Lewis was the dynamic driving force behind the whole CIO movement to organize the unorganized workers in the mass production industries need not be labored.

Washington

Of more special interest is his attitude toward Negro workers. As president af the United Mine Workers' union, Lewis has had, for years, more Negro members than any other labor group in the country, and is willing to cope with the problems incident to the integration of Negroes into labor organization.

During the five years which the CIO has been in existence, Lewis definitely has established himself as the champion of not only the Negro's rights to join labor unions, but has waged an aggressive fight for political freedom for the Negro in the South.

Whatever Lewis' faults may be, whatever bad judgment he may have had on other questions; however erratic his behavior may have appeared to politicians, he has done more than any living man to advance the cause of the Negro in labor.

What course Philip Murray, the new CIO chief, will take and to what extent Lewis will continue to exercise influence on the program of the organization will be determined by time. But in this instance the shifting of leadership of the CIO has robbed the Negro worker of his one great champion. Murray may attempt to "play fair" with Negroes but he can never be the aggressive, crusading champion of the black worker that Lewis was. What is best for the general labor movement, at this particular period, we are not in a position to say, but viewing the situation through the prism of color one can only arrive at the conclusion that the first step toward labor unity has resulted in a loss for the Negro.

FORD CALLS FOR UNITY OF U.S. AND MEXICAN PROGRESSIVES TO HALT WALL ST. IMPERIALISM

U. S. Communist Leader Greets Mass Rally In Mexico City

By Alfred Miller
(Special to the Daily Worker)

MEXICO CITY, Jan. 15.—James W. Ford, American Negro leader and member of the National Committee of the Communist Party of the United States, told a mass meeting here last Wednesday night that "the most important factor for repelling Yankee imperialist aggression in Mexico is the friendship between the labor and progressive forces of Mexico and the labor and progressive forces in the United States."

Ford brought the greetings of the Communist Party of the United States to the anti-imperialist meeting, which was called by the Mexican Communist Party to demand that the Mexican Government take energetic steps at this time to squash any rebellious fascist outbreak.

Thousands of Mexico City workers filled the Hidalgo Theater to hear Valentin Campa, secretary of the Communist Party of Mexico, urge the Cardenas Government to arm the workers and peasants and to hear Ford deliver the main speech on the international situation.

TOWARD ANTI-SOVIET WAR

Ford was greeted with a long ovation when he rose to speak.

In sharp words he exposed Wall Street imperialism as "taking the lead in changing the present war into a combined imperialist war against the Soviet Union."

"Yankee imperialism is jealously guarding and strengthening itself seeking to secure her world position at the expense of her imperialist rivals, whether they be England and France, on the one hand or Germany, Italy and Japan, on the other, and moreover at the sacrifice of the colonial and dependent countries," Ford said. 'Yankee imperialism is girding itself to drive all her rivals out of Latin America."

Briefly analyzing the maneuvers of the United States in the Finnish situation, the American Communist leader warned that the U. S. Government's plan to turn the inter-imperialist war into a counter-revolutionary imperialist war, will have dire consequences for Mexico and Latin-America.

"One readily recalls the Cedillo uprising which, no doubt, had foreign support," Ford pointed out. "But at that time the U. S. Government did not interfere in behalf of the rebels. If the constituted government, threatened by that rebellion had not taken the steps which it did, who knows what would be the situation in Mexico now?"

The Cedillo attempt has its lesson, he continued, since "nobody can be unmindful of the fact that there are similar rumblings in the air."

NOTHING FOR SPAIN

"And nobody can be so naive as to believe that Yankee imperialism has nothing to do with these rumblings. With a changed situation in the U. S. Government, this time the danger of open interference arises."

The United States did nothing to aid the Spanish People's Republic but it took no time to send $60,000,000 to Mannerheim Finland and to aid in oganizing shipments of air-planes, he continued. He warned that the same U. S. bankers and industrialists who are lending their

JAMES W. FORD

support to the Finnish reactionary forces are also conniving wtih Mexican traitors to organize rebellion in this country.

"But Yankee imperialism will have no easy time in tieing the Latin American countries to her war machine nor in destroying their independence because of the justified hatred and suspicion which these countries hold for North American imperialism," he declared.

"At this moment, the most important factor for repelling Yankee imperialist aggression in Mexico is the friendship between the labor and progressive forces in the U. S. I greet you as the representative of the Communist Party of the U. S. and extend you this most cordial and fraternal greetings." He promised that the Communist Party of the U. S. "will do all in its power to guard and preserve the freedom and independence of Mexico."

Showing that the so-called "Good Neighbor" policy of the Roosevelt administration is changing into the Old Dollar Diplomancy, Ford said that "among the progressive forces of the United States and the Communist Party there still remain the burning core of a real Good Neighbor policy. Only our solidarity can prevent the spread of imperialist war to this hemisphere and guarantee the lasting independence of every country of Latin-America," he said.

U. S. FUNDS FOR FASCIST

Campa, who followed Ford on the list of speakers, put into sharp relief the campaign of slander against Mexico that is going on now in the U. S. press. He spoke of the Hearst faked stories on an "assassination" of President Cardenas that never took place on tourists being robbed and raped, and about rebellious attempts that are supposed to have taken place in various states. He analyzed the oil boycott and the moves of the Dies Committee with regard to Mexico.

"It is good business for the oil companies, which demand the ridiculous sum of $450,000,000 or the return of their properties, to invest 150 million pesos with Almazan for the return of the oil fields after a successful rebellion," Campa stated. Juan Andren Almazan is the reactionary presidential candidate. He pointed out that the time of the Cedillo rebellion it had also been the Communists who had informed the government and the public of the insurrectionist preparations.

"We have been opposed to the same exaggerated optimism of our friends that was evident at that time and which again is beng expressed today, that a rebellion is not possible," Campa said. "Today the struggle is different from the one against Cedillo. There are other circumstances. Almazan has far greater resources and much greater aid from abroad."

Emphasizing that the situation today is extremely serious and that all signs are showing that the reactionary forces, led by Almazan, are actively engaged in preparing an insurrection against the Cardenas government and that they are receiving material and moral aid from Yankee imperialism, Campa demanded that arms be issued to the peasant forces which now form the Army Reserve and to the workers' battalions.

He demanded the death penalty and long-term jail sentences for every one who attempts to rise in arms against the government.

"This time we must not let them get off as easy as they did during the Cedillo rebellion," Campa said. Cardenas pardoned every Cedillo rebel, disarmed him and sent him home.

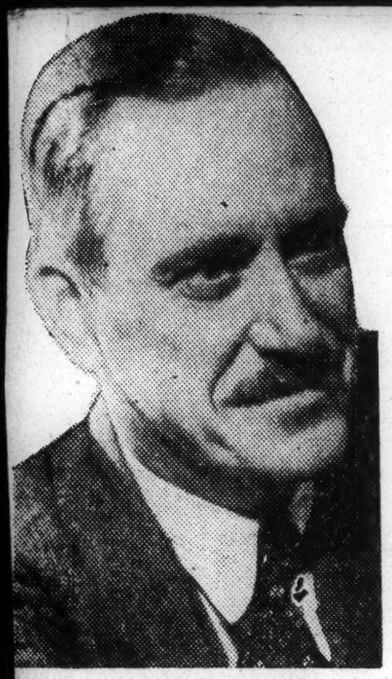
The following resolution was wired to President Cardenas after unanimous approval by the audiences:

"The thousands gathered at the anti-imperialist meeting called by the Mexican Communist Party at the Hidalgo Theatre, tonite, unanimously resolve to use all means to deepen the struggle for the liberation of our country from imperialism and to maintain the neutrality of Mexico. We shall bend every effort against the measures of the U. S. government, which has abandoned its Good Neighbor policy and which is trying violently to interfere in our internal affairs, to drag us into the war.

"We also support your government against the reactionary forces that are trying to rise in arms and we ask you to use strong means to quash all those who want to drown our country in blood."

Bares Wall Street Aims For World Anti-Soviet War

CARRYING HIGH THE BANNER OF THE LINCOLN TRADITION



EARL BROWDER

By EARL BROWDER

"If the tradition of Lincoln is to survive, if his words shall play a role in political life today, this will be due not to the Republicans nor to the Democrats, but to the modern representatives of historical progress, the COMMUNISTS. Today, it is left to the Communist Party to revive the words of Lincoln. All others are content merely with a conventional and empty bowing before a great tradition.

"Lincoln carried the fight against reaction to the American masses. He roused them and mobilized them for an offensive in behalf of the struggle against tyranny, for liberty and democracy. In this cause, he called upon the traditions of 1776, as we Communists do today."

—Excerpt from an address delivered by the Communist leader on Lincoln's birthday, Feb. 12, 1936, at Springfield, Illinois.

By JAMES W. FORD

JAMES W. FORD

"Lincoln and Douglass were men of toil—Abe Lincoln was a 'poor white' from the southern hills, into which the slave system had forced the toiling white farmers of the South; Douglass was a child of slavery in eastern Maryland, from which he fled to the north, where he became the most brilliant spokesman of the Abolitionist movement and the outstanding man of his race.

"The slaveholders' rebellion was crushed by revolutionary methods. For a time the Negro people, together with the toiling white people of the South, were on the road to democracy. Subsequently, however, reaction imposed a new form of semi-slavery upon the Negro people in the form of sharecropping peonage, economic discrimination in every field of work, segregation, disfranchisement, lynching and terror. Thus, the battle commenced by Lincoln and Douglass must still be completed."

—From the Negro and the Democratic Front by James W. Ford, Negro member of the National Committee of the Communist Party. Pp. 140—144.

COMMUNISTS PACK ARENA

HENRY WINSTON PLEADS FOR RACE RIGHTS — LAURA DUNCAN SINGS "STRANGE FRUIT" AND RECEIVES OVATION

An audience of 10,200 crowded Boston Arena last Sunday afternoon at a peace rally held by the Communist Party of Massachusetts.

After the singing of the national anthem and the Internationale, Philip Frankfeld, state secretary, presented Thomas Patrick O'Dea, president of the Young Communist League, who stressed the need of unity between the Irish and colored peoples, pointing out that Frederick Douglass raised funds for the Irish during the potato famine of 1848. Henry Winston, colored national administrative secretary of the League, declared: "The colored Yanks are not coming. They refuse to fight in a criminal, unjust, imperialist war when there are 4,000,000 jobless Americans." The young leader paid tribute to the late William Monroe Trotter.

Chairman Frankfeld said that the party's slogan in the 1940 election is "Peace, Jobs, Security, and Civil Liberties." He scoffed at the Dies Committee and affirmed that he would not hand over party membership lists even if there were any. He assailed the WPA cuts scheduled for Monday.

Unanimously passed by the audience were resolutions demanding passage of the Wagner-Van Nuys Anti-Lynching and Geyer Poll-Tax Bills, resolutions in favor of Ireland's liberation from British imperialism and in protest against the Dies Committee's subpoenas to Frankfeld, O'Dea and Miss Ann Burlak.

Miss Laura Duncan of New York was accorded an ovation when she sang "Sometimes I Feel Like a Motherless Child", "Sunny South" (words by Langston Hughes and music by her accompanist, Alvin Moss), and "Strange Fruit", an anti-lynch song.

Announced to be a speaker Elizabeth Gurley Flynn, Irish-American labor leader, had to cancel the engagement, owing to the sudden death of her son. Mother Bloor, 78 years old was presented with flowers at the end of her address.

Earl Browder, general secretary of the Communist Party, gave the keynote address. Points stressed by Browder were world imperialism's fear of the Socialist revolution in Europe, imperialism's hatred of the Soviet Union as the first country to achieve Socialism, Roosevelt's abandonment of his progressivism, the impending destruction of the British Empire, and the "nefarious acts" of the Dies Committee.

A collection of $2,952.20 was taken up.

COMMUNISM DECLINES IN HARLEM

ACCORDING TO REPORTS published last week, membership in the Communist Party in Harlem has declined from an estimated high of 5,000 members in the Spring of 1939 to about 250 members at the present time. It was also reported that James Ford, leading Negro Communist and two times candidate for Vice President of the United States, has been removed from power in the party councils and "kicked up stairs" to a position of special party representative in Mexico. The report also charged that there are only fifty paid-up Negro Communists in Harlem.

Much has been made of the spread of Communism among the Negroes by the Dies Committee and concern has been shown in other responsible quarters but it seems that the Communists have either padded their membership rolls or that the present war of aggression in Russia has caused a serious decline in the party membership in this country.

The Age has stated from time to time that the masses of Negroes in this country, native and foreign-born, are loyal to the United States, its traditions and institutions and after ten years of propagandizing among the Negroes of this country, we believe the Communist party is ready to admit this fact.

The Best Answer

The Communist Front American Youth Congress which hissed President Roosevelt and the First Lady at their recent Washington meeting is at it again.

This time it opposes the President's program for universal military training and alleges that the best preparation for defense is more money spent on social reforms.

A national defense program that will put these youngsters to work in factories or in the army is the best answer to youthful agitators.

James W. Ford Speaks on Mexico

JAMES W. FORD, just returned from an extended stay in Mexico, is shown above at Irving Plaza where he addressed a capacity audience Wednesday evening at the first of a series of borough-wide meetings at which he will report on the present situation in the land to the south. The Irving Plaza meeting was held under the joint auspices of the Manhattan Assembly District organizations of the Communist Party. Ford gave a detailed analysis of the political problems confronting the Mexican people, and livened his talk with numerous anecdotes of his experience there. His talk was followed by a question and answer period.

—Daily Worker Pho

Ford Hits Lehman on Negro Rights

Addresses New Rochelle Rally; Hits Lehman Speech to Red Caps

SEP 27 1940

(Special to the Daily Worker)

NEW ROCHELLE, N. Y., Sept. 26.—James W. Ford, Communist vice-presidential candidate, charged here last night that Gov. Lehman revealed either "total ignorance" or "utter contempt for Negro rights" in a speech the Governor delivered before the recent Pullman Porters convention.

(Ford will be the main speaker at a rally at the Rennaissance Casino in Harlem Monday evening Sept. 30. Speaking with Ford will be William L. Patterson, Negro Communist leader and opponent of Congressman Arthur Mitchell in Chicago, and Ben Davis, Jr., Communist candidate for Congress in the 21st Congressional District in Harlem.)

The noted Negro leader asserted, amidst rousing applause, that Gov. Lehman's statement that "there is more freedom in America than anywhere else in the world," was a "hollow mockery" applied to the Negro people.

"In fact, the Governor's amazing statement in view of the discrimination upon Negroes in the New York state, as well as in the South, only shows that he is a part of the conspiracy of both major parties to scuttle Negro rights in favor of the fake 'defense program,'" Ford said.

CAPACITY CROWD

The Negro leader spoke to a capacity audience in a local high school auditorium, at a meeting under local Communist Party auspices. Throughout his stirring address, he was greeted with frequent applause, and when he was introduced, the audience rose and gave him a standing ovation, many waving their handkerchiefs.

Speaking on the same program with Ford, were Benjamin J. Davis, Jr., member of the Daily Worker editorial board and candidate for Congress in the Harlem 21st Congressional District, and Herbert Wheeldin, Negro leader of the Westchester Communist Party, and candidate for Congress in the 25th Congressional District.

It was one of the most enthusiastic meetings held in New Rochelle, and was marked by a large turnout of the Negro citizens who comprised more than half the attendance of more than 275.

"No one can speak of freedom in America or of democracy," Ford said, "while the Negro people are being lynched, disfranchised and discriminated against by Wall Street and its two major parties. Gov. Lehman is either totally ignorant of these conditions or he is utterly contemptuous of the bitter struggles which the Negro people, labor and progressives are waging against jim-crow oppression."

Ford pointed out that "there is no excuse for this ignorance," since the Governor's own Temporary Commission on Negro Urban Conditions has shown an appalling condition of job-discrimination, police brutality, and slums in Negro areas.

CITES BRUTALITY

The audience gasped when Ford told them that in Buffalo where he spoke three days ago a policeman clubbed a Negro worker to the pavement and ground the breath out of him with his heel.

"It is only through voting the Communist ticket in this election campaign can the Negro people register their will for passage of the anti-lynching bill and the anti-poll tax bill," he said to loud amens from the audience.

Davis, pointed out that there are 13 million Negroes in America with one lone Congressman "and he doesn't act like a Negro since he's lined up with the Administration which brushes aside the demands of the Negro people for full citizenship." Davis referred to Cong. Mitchell, reactionary Negro Democrat of Chicago, against whom William Patterson is waging a powerful campaign.

"Yet both Willkie and Roosevelt want the Negro people to die in Europe for the bankers in order to protect this way of life—a way of lynching, segregation, jim-crowism and abject poverty," Davis said. "The people must answer this with a big Communist Vote," he asserted.

Outstanding at the rally was a large group of Negro youths who formed a cheering section for Ford in the back of the hall.

Earlier in the afternoon a luncheon for Ford and Davis was held in the leading restaurant of the Negro community. It was attended by a prominent Negro minister and a number of community people who stopped to chat with Ford and inquire of his experiences during his campaign tour.

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COMMUNISTS

Chicago Defender Hails C. P. Fight for Negro Rights

Front Page Editorial Raps A. Philip Randolph for Anti-Soviet, Red-Baiting Stand at Recent Nat'l Negro Congress

(Special to the Sunday Worker)

CHICAGO, Ill., May 4.—**"Every black man is a Communist but doesn't know it."** This is the title of a front page editorial by Editor Lucius C. Harper in the May 4 issue of the Chicago Defender, one of the country's leading Negro newspapers.

Harper takes to task A. Philip Randolph, president of the AFL Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters for the anti-Soviet, anti-Communist position taken by the latter at the recent National Negro Congress' meeting in Washington. Randolph resigned as President of the Congress when the delegates voted down his pro Roosevelt policies, and was replaced by Dr. Max Yergan, famous Negro scholar.

HAILS PARTY'S FIGHT

Criticizing Randolph's stand at the Congress, Editor Harper says:

"He blasted the Soviet Union, where there is no race prejudice, and condemned American Communists who have shown none."

Then, says the editor:

"Potentially, every black man in America is a Communist. He wants this discriminatory form of government corrected. Some are brave enough to admit it and openly join the party voicing that program; others agree in part with its platform, but for the sake of bread and butter, keep quiet on the issue; still others too cowardly to fight for their own rights silently applaud Communistic bombardments against American race prejudice.

"Fact of the matter is that the Communist has given shape and form to the Negro's previously unrecognized fight for his rights as an American citizen—America is still half free and half slave."

HITS WILLIAM GREEN

Harper recalls that "Randolph owes his allegiance and rise to fame to the revolutionary thought movement which he now alarmingly condemns.—He joined the Socialist Party in the days of Eugene V. Debs and was made editor of the Messenger."

But "when the Socialist Party divided in its St. Louis convention on property rights," Harper emphasizes, "Randolph went with the private property group and soon thereafter the Messenger suspended publication."

The editor then scathingly says of the A. F. of L. commander-in-chief that **"William Green—artful dodger on the Negro question—is a bosom friend of the capitalist."**

Harper's sharp criticism of red-baiting is in marked contrast to the attitude of Cornelius Maiden, a Negro who is now working as Southern organizer for the A. F. of L.

Maiden attended the Congress session in Washington and attempted to split the organization on the issue of race by introducing a resolution excluding whites from membership in the organization. After adjournment of the Congress, he issued a red-baiting statement against the Congress which might have come straight from the lips of Martin Dies. The speech accused "the Communists and John L. Lewis CIO" of "scheming to convert the National Negro Congress into an agency of Moscow, Russia."

Maiden also said in a pro-war speech that "the Southern Negroes will vote for President Roosevelt for a third term, although Negroes, as well as poor whites, are generally disfranchized throughout the South.

Tuscaloosa, Ala., News
June 5, 1940

The Reds In America

THE New Jersey strike, in which CIO maritime workers held up the construction of six United States warships for several days, is just a taste of what this country is destined to have if war gets any closer.

Thomas M. Johnson, who is writing a series of articles for this newspaper on Fifth Column activities, tells us that, according to one authority, the Communists manipulate the radical unions in eight key industries of America, including aircraft, automobile, steel, rubber and some of the communications.

When someone mentions Communism, our pale parlor pinks rise up and demand, "Show us some Communists." They point out that the Communist candidate for president of the United States in 1936 polled only 80,000 votes, and they offer that as conclusive evidence of the fact that there really aren't enough Communists to amount to anything in America.

The Communists don't work that way. They have a few front men, but they prefer to work undercover, and they have honeycombed certain industries in America. Secrecy and stealth, and the masquerading in false apparel, is a key of their success—and we trust now that those who have scoffed at the Red menace as nothing more than a dream have had their eyes opened by the Fifth Column activities in Europe.

The pity is that so many respectable and prominent citizens, howling about "liberalism", have been used as pawns by these people. Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt is the chief offender in this field. Among others the president's close associates are Harold Ickes and Mrs. Perkins. Mrs. Roosevelt is no Communist; we do not think that she has any sympathy for Communism, but nevertheless she has played directly into the hands of those who would undermine the very government which her husband heads.

Mrs. Roosevelt has publicly defended, on more than one occasion, the American Youth Congress. She has spoken before this Congress in spite of the fact that it has been openly sympathetic with Soviet Russia; in spite of the fact that it is honeycombed with Communists; in spite of the fact that it has moved heaven and earth to keep America from embarking on a real defense program. We wonder why this Youth Congress thinks that it's all right for Russia to have a huge army, and yet all wrong for the United States to have one. We wonder.

As Westbrook Pegler points out, Mrs. Roosevelt would not, for one moment, allow her name to be associated even remotely with any Bund or any society that savored of Fascism. Why, then, does this good lady string along with that crowd which to anybody except the blind is Communistic?

Mr. Johnson, in writing on the Fifth Column activities in America, points out that the Communists are bitterly against J. Edgar Hoover's F. B. I. The F. B. I., the most efficient law enforcement agency in America, has been too diligent in uncovering their subversive activities. Resolutions using almost the identical language have been directed at the F. B. I. by radical groups all over the country. One of these resolutions was passed by the Southern Conference for Human Welfare in Chattanooga. And Mrs. Roosevelt has twice made trips south for the express purpose of addressing this gang of radicals.

One of the chief aims of the Communists in America is to stir up trouble among the negroes. Mitchell, the negro congressman from Chicago says that the CIO is turning negroes Red. All of these radical organizations adopt resolutions in behalf of the negro. The Communist Party at its national convention the other day, adopted a plank in behalf of the negroes. The Communists feel that, in the negroes, they have a huge group which, if given the opportunity would serve as the backbone of an American revolution.

In spite of this work among the negroes, we regard the South as the American bulwark against radicalism. If things get worse, there will be sabotage of all kinds in the industrial East and on the West Coast, but there will be little of that in the South, because we have not allowed Communism to gain the foothold here that it has gained elsewhere. From the standpoint of national safety, therefore, it would seem advisable to have our defense program centered in the South—or certainly until a lot of house-cleaning could be done in other parts of the country. Will we allow America—because of Eleanor Roosevelt, Harold Ickes, Frances Perkins and others of their type—to pay the same enormous price that France is now paying because of Leon Blum?

Examples of Browder and Ford Inspire Our Generation, YCL Says

Closing Session of Recent Convention Adopted Proclamation Backing Communist Candidates as Strongest Leaders for Peace

A proclamation endorsing the candidacy of Earl Browder for President and James W. Ford for Vice-President of the United States on the Communist Party ticket was issued by the State Convention of the Young Communist League which concluded its three-day session last Sunday.

The message follows:

"Dear Comrades:

"Our generation feels deeply its responsibility in this fight against America's entrance into the imperialist war. Your splendid courage and clear leadership in this struggle has inspired us to let no obstacle deter us in the campaign to win the votes of young America for the candidates of the Communist Party.

"The capitalist class is attempting to entice our generation by the same seductive and hypocritical appeals that prepared the entrance of an earlier generation into the last world war. Amidst all the hysterical and luring appeals to young America once again to become the corpses of capitalism in the fields of Flanders, your example has impressed our generation with the devotion of the Communist Party's fight in the interests of the American people.

"We have learned from your heroic fight in the last war, Comrade Browder, the courage, the honesty and devotion to the cause of the working people that guarantees the final victory against the war-makers and the system that breeds it. It is your voice that resounds in clearest tones and instructs us in the methods to combat the war-makers. We will fight to prevent the war-makers from stilling your voice.

"From you, Comrade Ford, a veteran of the last war, we have received the undying inspiration to struggle for the rights of all the people, and to struggle for the unity of Negro and white for the full and equal rights of the Negro people. You, who fought in the last war, have gone through the hell and torture that our generation is fighting to avoid. And in this battle we have your clear and firm leadership and the program of the Communist Party which is destined to win the working people of our country.

"If our generation has any clear understanding of the world today, it is because we have the wealthy resources of Marxist-Leninist education, and your enrichment of it in this period. This is the priceless heritage you have given us in the fight for the people's interests. And in carrying forward the heritage, we pledge to you that we will not swerve from the task of fully transforming this world 'into the sort of place which the best minds have dreamed about over the centuries.'

"We whole-heartedly endorse your candidacy and pledge to win the youth to vote for you as the only representatives of the interests of the young people in our country."

Full-hearted support to the Communist candidates has been pledged by the new State Council composed of John Little, chairman; John Gates, executive secretary; Claudia Jones, educational directory; and Michael Saunders, administrative secretary.

Al Steele, former administrative secretary of the Empire State League, and S. Seymour, chairman of the Finance Committee, have graduated from the League into the Communist Party with high honors.

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AMERICA'S FIGHTING WOMEN--YOU'LL FIND THEM AT THE COMMUNIST CONVENTION

By Sender Garlin

There are more young, good-looking and vivacious young women from 18 to 77 in the Communist Party Convention now in session at the Royal Windsor than in any similar political gathering anywhere in the United States. . . . Twenty-five per cent of the delegates to the convention are women, and they are on virtually every leading committee. Thirty - seven per cent of the Negro delegates are women, with a substantial representation from the "black belt" and various Southern states.

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Fred Bassett Blair of Milwaukee is again aiming to be elected Governor of Wisocnsin. This is the third time, he says:

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Many of the women delegates have seen the inside of jails in the course of their activities: Gurley Flynn and Mother Bloor have been temporarily detained in various American prisons on more than one occasion. . . . You'll get the whole story of this stormy career in her autobiography which International is promising for early publication. . . Louise Todd is a recent post-graduate of the women's prison of St. Quentin, Cal. Served more than a year on a trumped-up charge. Serious, hardworking young woman. I knew both her and her father in California. . . . He's an old-timer in the movement with many years of experience in Germany as well as in the U.S.A.

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Anita Whitney, looks like one who could be crowned The Kindliest Soul in the world. Yet her speech at the Peace Panel over whih she presided was filled with hatred for the war-makers and the oppressors of Labor . . . Anita Whitney is the niece of a former justice of the Supreme Court, but that didn't prevent her conviction and sentene of one to fourteen years on one of those familiar "Criminal Syndicalist" laws. That was back in 1919, immediately following the formation of the Communist Party of which she is a charter member. . . . The case dragged on in the courts for seven years, and public pressure finally compelled the Governor of California to issue a pardon, thus "exonerating" her. . . .

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One of the outstanding heroes of the convention is John Lautner of West Virginia. A former bricklayer, he's now state secretary of the Party in a state on which the first mortgage is held by the duPont, Mellon and Rockefeller interests. Millions in coal and chemicals are extricated from the state every year, "but the national wealth of the state," observes Lautner "is not owned by the people.

Lautner is the man who has set the pace in the job of putting the Party on the ballot in the various states. (His most enthusiastic booster is naturally National election campaign manager Pete Cacchione). Under his leadership the West Virginia organization obtained the signatures of 8,684 signatures in a state where Mr. John T. Weir of "Little Steel" notoriety speaks with a stentorian voice. . . **Mr. Weir and his associates have** made it as difficult as possible for minority parties to get on the ballot in West Virginia. According to the amended election law of 1932, signatures of one per cent of the voters are required to place a political party on the ballot. B.U.T.—voters who sign the Communist Election Petitions are barred from voting in the primaries, the inference being that they automatically become registered communist voters.

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Tom Myerscough, veteran of scores of labor struggles, a familiar figure for years in the Pennsylvania coal fields, is here with a delegation from the Schenectady section. . . . There's Mike Stanovich, who began activity in the old "Save-the-Union" days in Pittsburgh nearly 15 years ago . . . Martha Stone, vivacious young veteran-leader of Paterson, N. J. . . Homer Brooks who has often defied the Hooded Riders in the South, and has felt the lash of the Ku Kluxers on his back . . . scores of familiar faces among the furriers, electrical workers and marine workers of our own New York.

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Barra Silva, fraternal delegate of the Communist Party of Chile, is one of the secretaries of the Chilean Party. In his early thirties, Silva is a former Nitrate worker. He was frequently persecuted and jailed during the many years of the party's illegality prior to the advent of the Peoples Front in Chile. . . .

Two other fraternal delegates

by the Communists below the Rio Grande are Selgato and Carrillo. Selgato, secretary of the Party in Mexico City, a veteran of the International Brigade in Spain. When only 15, inspired by the struggle for Nicaraguan independence, he joined Sandino's forces in the fight against Yankee Imperialism. . . . Rafael Carillo is a former National secretary of the Mexican

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Two other fraternal delegates

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Ford Reports on Mexico in Bronx

Tells 1,500 of Wall Street Intrigues Against Mexican People and Calls for Unity in Struggle Against Common Enemy

It was like a breath of fresh air amid the stale vapors of capitalist incitement and demagogy against our neighbors to the South, when James W. Ford spoke clearly yet passionately on the present situation in Mexico, Wednesday night at Hunts Point Palace. One thousand five hundred persons braved a driving rain to hear the Communist leader, the great spokesman for the Negro people, report on his five months stay in Mexico. The meeting was under the auspices of the Bronx County Communist Party and Young Communist League.

The people who heard him felt a close bond of unity with the Mexicans south of the border. Some were Jews, some were Negroes and others Spanish-speaking immigrants —all knew the whip of oppression which Yankee imperialism (we call it Wall Street) is wielding against Mexico and her people in their struggle for independence.

KEEN INTEREST

That was why they listened with such keen interest to Ford's report —to the report of this "ambassador of the American working people" as Ford said he had considered himself.

When Ford warned that "imperialism, especially Yankee imperialism, would do everything possible to draw the Latin American countries into the war on the side of the Allies," they knew just what he meant—for the same threat of involvement in a predatory war hangs over the American people.

And they cheered when Ford showed the way of action in stopping the war drive—the way of friendship and solidarity between the American people, their labor and progressive movement, and the similar movements in Mexico, Cuba and other Latin American countries.

They cheered the name of Vicente Lombardo Toledano, Mexico's great trade union leader, and the names of John L. Lewis and his daughter Kathryn, whom Ford praised for their friendly relations with the Latin American trade union movements. Especially did they cheer the name of Dionisio Encina, the new General Secretary of the Communist Party of Mexico, who heralded the need for working class leadership of the bourgeois-democratic Mexican Revolution as the key to victory over enemies within and without.

RAPS DIES, HULL

Enemies there are aplenty, was Ford's warning. General Juan Andreu Almazan, the millionaire candidate in the presidential election in July, the marionette hanging on Wall Street's strings, is preparing armed insurrection to thwart the will of the people, who are backing the candidacy of Manuel Avila Camacho. He is one of the enemies. Another is Rep. Martin Dies, who blithely "investigates" a sovereign state oblivious of international law in order to clear the way for Almazan's insurrection **a la Franco.** And also President Roosevelt and his Secretary of State Cordell Hull, who perform the will of the imperialist oil companies.

"Since the last World War," Ford said, **"Mexico has been the spearhead of American imperialism's thrust toward domination of Latin America."** The imperialist war in Europe affords Wall Street its chance to push on that spearhead, in Ford's words, **"to thwart Mexico's independence and maintain her in a semi-colonial and dependent condition."**

NEED FOR UNITY

Ford told how the threat could be defeated—by the militant action of the Mexican people, in collaboration with their brother peoples through Latin America and in alliance with the people's movement against imperialist war in the United States

But, Ford emphasized, "in this situation Mexico requires a strong Communist Party that will hasten the organization and concentration of all the progressive forces in the country—a Party standing at the head of the movement of the workers and peasants, guiding and orientating them, as the only guarantee that Mexico's independence can be attained and all the achievements of the progressive revolution of the toilers and the people of the last several years maintained and extended. Mexico requires a Communist Party based soundly on a Marxist-Leninist-Stalinist policy."

But the lack of such a Party was "the essential and, one might say, the decisive weakness of the Mexican progressive movement during the last period," Ford declared. At the recent Extraordinary Congress of the Mexican Communist Party, which Ford attended as fraternal delegate of the Communist Party of the United States, the Trotzky-ite-opportunist rot was cleaned out and the Party is preparing a "Stalinist development of its activities," he reported.

JAMES W. FORD

Ford showed the necessity for the working class to lead the agrarian, anti-imperialist revolution, instead of the petty bourgeoisie and the liberal bourgeoisie.

President Lazaro Cardenas and the liberal bourgeoisie "under the pressure of the popular movement, pressed by the proletariat," Ford said, satisfied certain demands of the people in order to hold the revolution in the hands of the petty bourgeoisie and the liberal bourgeoisie. They acted in such a manner as to check and prevent the spontaneous actions of the masses from below."

MASS MOVEMENT

But it is only the mass movement of the people, fearless of the threats of imperialism and native reaction and vigorously combatting them, which can stem the Almazan danger, Ford added. It is the role of the Communist Party of Mexico, with its new, healthy leadership, to see to it that this movement is ready when the time comes.

The Communist Party, Ford declared, has great possibilities in the present situation in furthering "the struggle of the Mexican people for the independence of their country from all foreign interference in their economic and political life, for the advancement of the agrarian, anti-imperialist, anti-feudal, bourgeois-democratic revolution."

And that the Mexican people in that fight are allies of the American people in their own fight for peace, jobs and civil liberties, Ford declared. In this idea was summed up his enlightening and invigorating report—in the idea of solidarity.

OFFICIAL HEARS NAZIS SEEK NEGRO MEMBERS

Speech To Arkansas Sharecroppers Reported

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., May 27.—(UP)—Atty.-Gen. Jack Holt Monday received a letter charging that the Nazi party was conducting a membership drive among Southern negroes.

General Holt said the letter, which he immediately turned over to the Federal Bureau of Investigation, told of "fifth column" gatherings in an East Arkansas county at which Nazi literature was distributed among negro sharecroppers and field hands.

Speakers at one of the meetings last week, the letter said, told the negroes they were "nothing but slaves' 'and that Adolf Hitler would free them. They also said that Hitler "is a leader of the common people and should be leading this Nation."

General Holt said he was certain the letter was not the work of cranks. It was signed by three men and was intelligently written, he said.

"There were other facts in the letter that I wouldn't dare make public because it would cause the leaders to flee before the FBI could investigate." he added.

Bronx Ford Rally Tonight Against War

The Bronx mass meeting at which James W. Ford will speak tonight at Hunts Point Palace, 163rd St. and Southern Blvd., is being turned into a protest meeting also against the present moves by the Administration to involve the country in the imperialist war.

On Sunday, special canvassing squads of the YCL and Communist Party, visited many Negro and white homes with leaflets and tickets for the meeting. These squads also carried the petition of the Communist Party demanding the immediate passage of the anti-lynching bill.

'Clarity,' New YCL Paper Makes Bow

Theoretical Journal to Be Published Bi-Monthly Aims at Strengthening Understanding of Basic Problems of Youth

By Herbert Rosen

"Clarity," the new theoretical organ published by the Young Communist League every two months, is a splendid source of information and understanding for all Young Communists and for all working in and interested in the movement of the young people for peace, freedom and socialism. It unquestionably will aid in raising the theoretical understanding of the members of the Young Communist League and thereby will speed performance of the tasks facing the Y.C.L.—to unite the young people against the imperialist war, for defense of the living conditions and civil rights of the people, for improvement of the status of the youth, for socialism, the way to a new world.

Leaders of the Young Communist League have contributed excellent articles to this first number of "Clarity." The articles range over the field of youth activity on various fronts.

YOUTH VS. ROOSEVELT

The leading article is Gil Green's address to the meeting of the National Committee of the Communist Party in February, entitled "Youth Reject the Roosevelt Program." Green, setting forth in a few pages the new developments in the youth movement following the outbreak of the imperialist war, shows the reasons for the defeat of the Roosevelt turn to war and reaction among the youth, particularly by the American Youth Congress. He draws three lessons from the Citizenship Institute of the A. Y. C., which was brutally insulted by President Roosevelt: 1) the rise of "a new militant spirit" among the working class, farming and student youth; 2) the new situation more than ever creates the basis for broad movements of the youth; and 3) a third party offers a practical alternative to the youth.

NEGROES AND WAR

Carl Ross writes on "America's youth in the struggle against the imperialist war." Clearly and succinctly he discusses the imperialist nature of the present war and the efforts of certain groups to justify the war before the youth and to enlist them for an anti-Soviet crusade. He emphasizes the importance of democracy in youth organizations in the struggle against transforming them into pro-war recruiting stations.

Henry Winston, Negro Y. C. L. leader, turns his pen to analysis of "Negro and White Unity Against War." He answers the petty bourgeois nationalist contention that the war is "a white man's war" with which the Negro people should have nothing to do. Winston, branding the war as imperialist, as a struggle of the tyrants oppressing the colonial peoples, makes clear that the Negro people must not stand aside from the war but join with labor in the fight to halt it. He also answers the arguments of the open supporters of British imperialism.

John Gates and Max Weiss both contribute brightly written, cogent articles, Gates' being entitled "Immoral Embargo" and Weiss' "An Unsolicited Reply to Some Unwanted Advice." Gates demolishes President Roosevelt's "liberal" contentions in his anti-Soviet incitement at the A. Y. C. meeting, enlisting unassailable facts to confute the President. The "unwanted advice" to the youth to which Weiss replies in his keen and witty article comes from Roosevelt, Walter Lippman and Dorothy Thompson.

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Camden Communists Win Freedom for Leaflet Distributors

Delegation of Negroes in Court Supports Five Arrested for Pointing Out Discrimination in City

(Special to the Daily Worker)

CAMDEN, N. J., May 8.—Three men and two women who were arrested Sunday for distributing Communist Party leaflets in the Eighth Ward here were acquitted today by Police Judge Jean Mariano. In the presence of a spontaneous delegation of Eighth Ward Negro citizens Mariano declared that he was "compelled" to release the five distributors because of recent U. S. Supreme Court rulings invalidating anti-leaflet ordinances.

At the same time Judge Mariano launched a plaintive denial of the existence of discrimination against Negro people in Camden and bitterly denounced the Communist Party for "stirring up trouble" and 'taking advantage of the liberty granted under the Constitution."

The leaflet for which the five distributors were arrested Sunday congratulated the Negro and white workers of the Eighth Ward on their "splendid unity" in supporting the demand for a Federal investigation into the recent wave of police brutalities against Negroes. It pointed out that further unity between Negro and white workers could achieve lasting benefits in improved housing, public health facilities, employment and education opportunities, elimination of jim crow discrimination and protection of the civil rights of balor.

CONDEMN ARRESTS

A statement issued jointly after the trial by John Flood Norman, Communist county secretary and Charles P. Hardy, local Negro Communist leader, characterized the arrest of the distributors under on ordinance invalidated by the Supreme Court as **"itself a brazen insult to the Constitution which bears out the truth that police attacks ..begun against the Negro people or any other minority must inevitably lead to attacks on the whole structure of American rights."**

"The Communist Party stands behind its message of unity between Negro and white workers in the struggle for their common interests," Norman and Hardy said. "We will not be deterred from it by either police persecution of outworn red herrings.

"If Judge Mariano is sincere in questioning the existence of discrimination against Negro people in Camden, let him ask whether there is one Negro family living in Westfield Acres. Let him ask why Negro people are compelled to live in slums for which they must pay rents as high or higher than in other parts of the city—why a Negro school teacher recently was prevented from buying property in Parkside. Let him learn why the beginning of work and Clement Branch Village was delayed for more than a year until this week, when it became clear to the politicians that the people were beginning to unite to improve their conditions.

"Let the judge inquire why Public Service, which shows no discrimination in taking the Negro people's money, refuses to hire Negroes except in the most menial capacities; why New York Shipyard refuses to accept applications from Negro workers seeking employment on Government contracts... Let him find out why a Negro woman employed by the city because of her qualifications receives almost half the wage given a white political appointee whom she must break in and teach her job.

"Most directly, if Judge Mariano is interested in knowing about these things, we invite him to come out in open support of the demand for a Federal investigation into the recent wave of shocking police brutalities which express so flagrantly the entire system of oppression under which the Negro people are compelled to live.

"The judge complained at the trial that "the Communists are taking advantage of the liberty granted under the Constitution. He is quite right. The American people must continue to take advantage of the liberty for which we have fought long in order to protect it in struggle against reactionaries bent on its destruction."

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FBI, DIES ASSAILED AT PARLEY IN SOUTH

Both Threaten Civil Liberties, Leader of Youth Council Says at Chattanooga

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn., April 14—The Federal Bureau of Investigation "should stick to the task of uprooting political corruption and eradicating kidnapping," Malcolm Dobbs Cotton of Houston, Texas, executive secretary of the Council of Young Southerners, declared here today in a speech in which he also assailed the Dies committee.

The council meeting prefaced the opening of the second Southern Conference for Human Welfare, which began here tonight.

Both the Dies committee and the FBI were "eating away civil liberties," Mr. Dobbs said, adding that J. Edgar Hoover, FBI director, in 1919 headed the "first big political spy system," which was used primarily "to destroy the American labor movement."

"We question with that great labor leader, John L. Lewis, the wisdom of appropriating more money to 'train men for industrial espionage at great expense to the taxpayer,'" Mr. Dobbs asserted.

Concerning Representative Dies, Democrat, of Texas, Mr. Dobbs said:

"He has smeared practically every organization using the name American."

In an open-forum discussion, Mr. Dobbs also charged that officials of the National Youth Administration were "afraid of their own shadows" and said that it was an "outrage" that Aubrey Williams, NYA Administrator, had withdrawn NYA workers from the American Youth Congress offices.

Mr. Williams, Mr. Dobbs said, gave as a reason for his action that the Youth Congress was primarily engaged in working for the passage of the American Youth Bill, but added that Mr. Williams had known for two years that the Youth Congress was pressing for the passage of this legislation.

Dr. Frank P. Graham, president of the University of North Carolina, opened the conference tonight as chairman. Appearing on the program with him were Dr. F. D. Patterson, president of Tuskegee Institute; Dr. J. B. Thompson of the Presbyterian Foundation, University of Oklahoma, and Dr. Mordecai Johnson, president of Howard University. The topic of their address was "The Meaning of Religion for Democracy."

These Are the People Dies Seeks to Smear

Above are three members of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade who fought for democracy in Spain and who were subjected to inquisition by the Dies Committee a week ago. Left to right they are Fred Keller, Jerry Cook and Milton Wolf. At the right is Claude Lightfoot, Negro Communist leader of Chicago who was also questioned by the committee.

LABOR- 1940
UNIONS, STRIKES, ETC.

COMMUNISTS

Michigan Civil Rights Body Calls Dies Procedure 'Political Persecution'

(Special to the Sunday Worker)

DETROIT, April 13.—The Civil Rights Federation today condemned as "political persecution" and as an "abrogation of civil rights" the Dies Committee procedure of citing for contempt witnesses who refused to reveal membership lists of their organizations on the grounds that this meant loss of livelihood for those disclosed, according to Rev. Owen A. Knox, Federation president.

The Federation, in telegrams to Michigan Congressmen, urged them to vote against contempt citations for all witnesses who thus refused to jeopardize the positions of their members.

Rev. Knox stated:

"The Dies Committee on un-American Activities was created by Congress as an investigating committee. In the past several weeks, the Committee has repeatedly cited for contempt witnesses who refused to disclose membership lists of their organizations. The witnesses contended that such disclosure would mean loss of livelihood for their members and that membership in a legal political organization was a private matter.

"The Dies Committee, in avowing its intention to use these contempt proceedings against scores of Communist Party leaders, has obviously overstepped its investigating authority. It has hit upon a technique that will jail and fine economic views. This is political persecution of the worst order. The Civil Rights Federation joins with the American Civil Liberties Union in opposing any inquiry by the Dies Committee directed to the production of any organization's membership lists. Such a procedure is un-democratic and an abrogation of civil rights."

Northwest Unions Denounce Dies Raids on C.P. as Aimed at Unions

(Special to the Sunday Worker)

SEATTLE, Wash., April 20.—Stinging denunciation of the Dies Committee was expressed in resolutions passed by Northwest unions as the flagrant attacks on the Communists trampled upon traditional rights of the people in America.

The Maritime Federation's Washington District Council No. 1, representing 15,000 workers in the fishing and marine industries; the National Maritime Union; and the Seattle CIO Council unanimously endorsed a resolution lodging protests with the Congressional delegation and the President.

Declaring that open-shop and anti-union elements are pressing their fight against unions under the leadership of the infamous Dies Committee, the resolution cited the NMU as an example that the sham battle with Communism was a snare to crack the union.

"The Dies Committee gives official leadership and stimulus to such disruptive drives and as long as this committee continues such actions, labor and other progressive organizations will be attacked by such employer-inspired tactics, ostensibly to purge Communists but actually to wreck the organizations," the resolutions pointed out.

Recent raids conducted by the Dies Committee against the Communist Party and other minority groups have tended to create an atmosphere of hysteria which, if unchecked, threaten to destroy unions and progressive organizations, the resolutions continued.

"We condemn the action of the Dies Committee and demand that this entire procedure of red-smear-ing and raids followed by contempt proceedings be immediately discontinued as it flagrantly violates the Bill of Rights which our forefathers fought so hard to secure."

Browder, Ford Named by Reds To Run Again

Herald-Tribune

Presidential Candidate, Out on Bail, Broadcasts Blast Against 'Imperialist War'

1-3-40

Earl Browder, forty-nine-year-old Kansas-born general secretary of the Communist party, facing a four-year prison sentence for passport fraud, was nominated yesterday as Communist candidate for President of the United States before 22,000 persons at the close of the party's eleventh annual convention in Madison Square Garden.

James W. Ford, forty-six-year-old Negro and former steel puddler, was nominated for Vice-President. Browder and Ford also ran in 1936, polling 80,159 votes, nearly half of which came from New York State, most of them from New York City.

Browder, who is free in $7,500 bail pending appeal from his conviction for forging passports, delivered a nationally broadcast acceptance speech calling for the United States to stay out of the "imperialistic war" in Europe and praising Russian policies without reference to the invasion of Finland.

The National and Mutual Broadcasting Companies broadcast the speeches of Browder and Ford on national networks from the Garden from 1:30 to 2 p. m. Browder spoke again over WABC and a Columbia Broadcasting Company network from 8 to 8:15 p. m.

The three companies gave the Communists free time, explaining they were compelled to by democratic principles and the Federal communications act, since candidates for the same offices from other political parties have had or will have free radio time for speeches. Both before and after Browder's talk over Columbia WABC announced that it had recommended a change in the act so that a station would not have to give time to a representative of a party controlled by a foreign government.

Although the Browder talks went ut over the networks in accordance with the law and the Communists' application for time, many member stations refused to use them locally. During the last several days many organizations and individuals had protested giving Communists time on the air.

May Campaign From Prison

Browder ran into the same sort of protests during the 1936 campaign, when he also had other troubles. He was jailed and pelted with eggs in Terre Haute, Ind., refused permission in Atlanta to leave a train to speak, and saw his meeting in Tampa, Fla., broken up by non-sympathizers.

Browder, a stocky man with a dark mustache and an oily voice which reeks sarcasm when he denounces both Republicans and Democrats for opposing Communist principles, will be the second man in American history to run for the Presidency while under Federal prison sentence.

In the 1920 campaign Eugene V. Debs polled 919,799 votes as Socialist candidate, although he was in Atlanta Federal Penitentiary for violating the espionage act in 1918. Dependent on court action on his appeal, Browder, too, may conduct his campaign from a Federal penitentiary.

The nominations of Browder and Ford were foregone conclusions at the final session, which lasted from 11 a. m. to 2 p. m. The time leading up to their climactic acceptance speeches was devoted to nominating and seconding speeches and to deafening cheers and demonstrations by the audience, which included voting delegates from every state, Alaska and Hawaii, as well as non-participating delegates from Mexico, Puerto Rico, Cuba and Chile. Many Negroes attended.

Visitors to the convention, who filled the Garden to capacity by 11:30 a. m., paid from 40 cents to $1.10 for seats from which they saw decorations consisting of American flags, red, white and blue bunting, pure-red flags and a number of red banners with white lettering.

Among the captions were "Long Live the U. S. S. R., Bulwark of Peace, Freedom and Socialism," "Build the Communist Party and Its Press," "Keep America Out of the Imperialist War," "Work—Not War Jobs, Not Guns."

William Z. Foster, national chairman of the Communist party and its candidate for President in 1924, 1928 and 1932, presided. The meeting started with "The Star-Spangled Banner," frequently invoked the names of Abraham Lincoln and closed with the "International."

Browder Cites Arms Clamor

Browder said that President Roosevelt, who in 1937 called for "a far higher standard of living for the masses," was now seeking a multiplied Navy and Army "that means military adventures in the Dutch East Indies and the Far East, in Latin America, and on the blood-soaked fields of Europe.

A clamor for armaments, he said, has drowned out a clamor for social advancements, and "the plutocrats, with their eyes on war profits, are trampling on the peoples' rights." Browder charged their motto was, "Billions for war, but not one cent to raise the American standard of living."

"No," he cried. "The one thing America cannot afford is this war—this insane and catastrophic crushing of the lives of the millions who are America. We are the best defenders of America—we the American workers and farmers, and the Communists in the very first ranks. We defend our country from its real enemies."

Then he listed main points in the Communist platform, including complete freedom of constitutional rights, rousing the masses against anti-union and discriminatory legislation, insuring rights to the Negro, defeating attacks on labor and aliens, and passing the anti-lynching bill. Browder said this was the party's immediate platform" and that it was not "revolutionary, not a socialist program."

Insisting that Russia had raised the living standards of the masses by 500 per cent, Browder said: "But if capitalism is truly a system which makes it impossible to provide a better life for all the people, then that fact should be admitted, and the American people will have the opportunity to try out the new system of socialism which has proved that it can do so."

Robert Minor, a Texas delegate, placed Browder in nomination and referred in his speech to the passport fraud conviction. "The economic royalists who are newly in control of affairs in Washington," he said, "have singled out the man I want to nominate and have inflicted upon him an unjust conviction and prison sentence that shows by its severity the panic they are in and their fear that large numbers of American people, opposed to war, may find leadership in this man."

Ford, who was born in Pratt City, Ala., told the assemblage he was "proud and happy" to accept the nomination for Vice-President, for which he also ran in 1932 and 1936.

One hundred and twenty-five police under Deputy Chief Inspector Louis F. Schilling, stationed inside and outside the Garden, encountered no disorder.

Head Presidential Ticket of the Communist Party

Associated Press

Earl Browder (right), candidate for President, and James W. Ford, Vice-Presidential nominee, at the Communist party's national convention in Madison Square Garden yesterday

Mead Urges Banishment Of 'American Way' Foes

Speech at Rally Is Broadcast After Browder's Address

Senator James M. Mead, of New York, speaking last night at a Young Citizens' Day rally in the Seventh Regiment Armory, Sixty-sixth Street and Park Avenue, urged banishment from America of those who were "unfriendly to the American way." His speech was broadcast over station WABC and the Columbia network directly following a broadcast from Madison Square Garden of an address by Earl Browder, who yesterday was nominated Communist Party candidate for President.

The rally was sponsored by a committee headed by Messmore Kendall, president general of the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution. An "oath of young citizenship," read by Chief Judge Irving Lehman, of the Court of Appeals, was repeated by hundreds of youths who will cast their first votes this fall.

Mr. Mead, the first speaker, warned that "sworn enemies of our free system of government are at work in our midst."

"Let us abolish those subversive forces," he said. "Let us erase them from our midst. Let us clean our body politic of corrosive elements which impede and thwart the processes of representative government. Let us be good neighbors in every sense of the word. To be good neighbors we require unity, loyalty and patriotic devotion."

Former Governor Alfred E. Smith lectured the young people on the necessity of voting. Americans who fail to vote are unworthy of citizenship, he said.

"In 1936, 22,000,000 Americans eligible to vote refused to take the time and trouble to go to the polls," he added. "Now all they've got to do is look across the Atlantic and see what happened to other peoples who let some one else tend to their business."

Mayor F. H. LaGuardia sent a telephone message warning that allegiance to democracy could be shared "with no other country, with no potentate, with no prince or dictator."

"It is so sacred," said the Mayor, "that it can be shared only with God Almighty."

Red Caps Challenge Scope Of Railroad Union Pacts

Atlanta Daily World - 7-2-40

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(SNS)—A conflict which has been brewing beneath the surface for the past two years between the United Transport Service Employees of America and the Brotherhood of Railway Clerks, an AFL affiliate, was brought into the open this week when the UTSEA went before the National Mediation Board to challenge the legality of arbitrary scope agreements with railroad companies covering many crafts and classes of employment, and under which a large number of employees are denied a voice in the operation of these agreements.

CASE SIGNIFICANT

The case is probably considered one of the most siignificant in the history of the Railway Labor Act, since the scope agreement practice has operated unfavorably to thousands of Negro railroad workers who are not permitted to join the standard brotherhoods, and who hitherto have been forced out of the industry by the job control mechanisms in many of these scope agreements.

The particular case involves the red caps at the St. Paul Terminal and is allegedly covered by a scope agreement with the Brotherhood of Railway Clerks. Because of this, UTSEA officials stated the Company has refused to bargain with the red cap's union despite the fact that over 95 per cent of the employees have selected the UTSEA as their bargaining agency. Aside from their work as red caps, a minor portion of their duties are janitoral.

RED CAPS A CRAFT

The United Transport Service Employees Union contends that these employees constitute a craft or class of employees within the meaning of the Railway Labor Act, and are therefore entitled to separate representation. The Union is demanding certification as the collective bargain

Case Is Termed Significant For Negro Workers

C. I. O. WINS WHITE COLLAR JOBS FOR THREE CUSTODIANS

Call 7-26-40

Kansas City, Mo.

WASHINGTON.—(ANP)—Three Negro messengers, two of them with more than 20 years' service in the federal government, were raised from custodial to white collar clerical status here last week, as the result of a long campaign by CIO's United Federal Workers of America, the government employes' union. The third man received his raise because of "superior education qualifications."

The three men, Allen Simms William Kelsey, and Chester Pearson, are employed in the Bituminous Coal division, which is under the department of interior. Simms has been with the government 25 years and Pearson has a service record which dates back 22 years.

The union first took up the fight for the messengers when a supervisor's post in the messenger service was given to a white laborer. Although the civil service commission later removed this man, another white man was given the same job subsequently.

The national office of the UFWA together with representatives of the local union conferred then, with E. K. Burlow, under secretary of the interior. As a result of this conference, the three appointments to the clerical service were made.

Says the United Federal Workers officials: "The department of interior is setting a much-needed example in the federal service for the non-discriminatory policy of promoting employes by merit regardless of race."

PORTERS OF DRUG COMPANY SEEKING HIGHER WAGES

Strike Threatened By Union Workers Of People's Firm

A strike of all the porters of Peoples Drug Stores in Washington and vicinity may be called if demands for higher wages and better working hours are not agreed upon by the company, it was learned this week.

The porters of the chain drug firm, two of whose stores have been picketed for nearly two years in an effort to secure Negro clerks in stores in colored neighborhoods, are organized under the name Local 113, United Retail Employees' Association (C.I.O.).

Eugene Davidson, it was learned this week, has been organizing the group for a year, and is the business agent of the union.

Just before Christmas the union asked to be recognized by the drug firm, and on December 8 was so recognized by the employer without recourse to a National Labor Relations Board election.

Two conferences have followed but because no reasonable approach to the demand for higher wages and better hours was offered by the company, dissatisfaction is sweeping through the ranks of the porters, according to several members.

Although no motion to strike was put at the last meeting of the union ,many members openly talk of such a possibility.

Another conference with the company has been arranged for next week ,at which time the differences may be ironed out.

Officers of the union are: Dan McRae, president; Harry M. Craighead, vice-president; Arthur Fair, secretary; Willie Walker, treasurer; Lee Campbell, financial secretary; George Morrison, assistant secretary.

The executive committee is composed of the officers and William R. Stevenson, Jasper Newsom and William A. King.

Walkout In Washington Restaurant Causes Trouble At Rush Hour In Cafeteria

Affadavits Given By White Girls Allege Insults Offered During Work Hours

Union Attempts To Force Damage Suit

Oklahoma City Okla.

WASHINGTON.—(ANP)—A contract dispute between the employes of the Press cafeteria and the operating company was climaxed Saturday by a walkout at the rush hour. A total of 26 employes, a majority of them colored, deserted the premises, although the United Cafeteria Employes union claims that 38 out of 40 union employes had walked out.

Black Dispatch 4-6-40

A company statement regarding the dispute, the press cafeteria declared, "We had agreed to renew our present contract with the union provided control of the company's operation remained in the management. The union demanded, however, a closed shop."

In connection with the dispute, the Press cafteria inserted a large advertisement in the Sunday Star, setting forth their claims for firing three employes, all colored, playing up to the mass feeling for sentiment and to invoke the aid of the public in its behalf, it is reported.

The advertisement stated that last April 29, two colored employes started a fight in the dining room. Both had been drinking, it is reported, and several items of company property were destroyed. One fled, the other was taken to the hospital for treatment and discharged the next day. Seven weeks later he returned and demanded his job which was refused on the grounds of his conduct and because of his absence. The union for several weeks thereafter, it is said, insisted he be retained, which was refused.

The second instance is ever more appealing to mass prejudice in that it declares that in August a white girl complained that she had been victim of improper advances by a colored employe, and that he had placed his hands on her person. On another occasion, another white girl waitress complained of the same thing of the same employe, charging that he had attempted to assault her in one of the store rooms. Both charges were sustained by affidavits of each girl and the colored employe was immediately discharged.

On August 15, the union filed suit demanding $500 damages for the employe. But in October when the case was tried, the cafeteria won out against the union on the grounds of the affidavits of the two girls.

Whether or not this will result in the wholesale firing of colored help at the cafeteria is not known at present, although most of the kitchen help and bus boys were colored prior to the trouble with the union, resulting in the walkout and picketing of the establishment.

KATHRYN LEWIS TO ADDRESS HOWARD MEETING, APRIL 6

Tribune 3-30-40

Trade Unionism and Democracy to be Theme of Session

Washington, D.C.

Miss Kathryn Lewis, daughter of CIO President John L. Lewis, will be one of the principal speakers at a mass meeting Saturday afternoon, April 6, at 2 o'clock in the chemistry hall auditorium at Howard University.

Other speakers will be Prof. George S. Counts, president of the American Federation of Teachers, AFL, and John P. Davis, secretary of the National Negro Congress.

The meeting is arranged by the Howard Union Council, which has delegates from local 27, United Office and Professional Workers, CIO, representing the office staff employees at Howard; local 440 of the American Federation of Teachers, and the Washington Chapter of the Federation of Architects, Engineers, Chemists and Technicians, CIO.

On Trade Unionism

The subject of the mass meeting is "Trade Unionism and Democracy at Howard University."

Miss Lewis is executive secretary to the president of the United Mine Workers of America, John L. Lewis. She has traveled extensively in South America in connection with her duties as secretary of the CIO Committee on Latin American Affairs.

In December, 1938, President Roosevelt named her a representative of the United States at the Lima, Peru, conference of the Pan-American Union.

Davis, secretary of the NNC, has had considerable experience in Negro affairs, especially in the trade union field. His organization has actively assisted in the organization of Negro workers into trade unions all over the country.

Dr. Counts, besides being president of the American Federation of Teachers, the AFL nationwide organization of teachers, is an outstanding professor at Columbia University.

Further steps in the negotiations between President Mordecai W. Johnson of Howard University and Office and Professional Workers, Local 27, will also be considered at the meeting.

The public is invited.

John L. Lewis' daughter and secretary plump **Kathryn Lewis**, who seldom appears in public, took a long lunch hour off from her job, spent it matching in a picketline before a cafeteria in Washington's National Press Building.

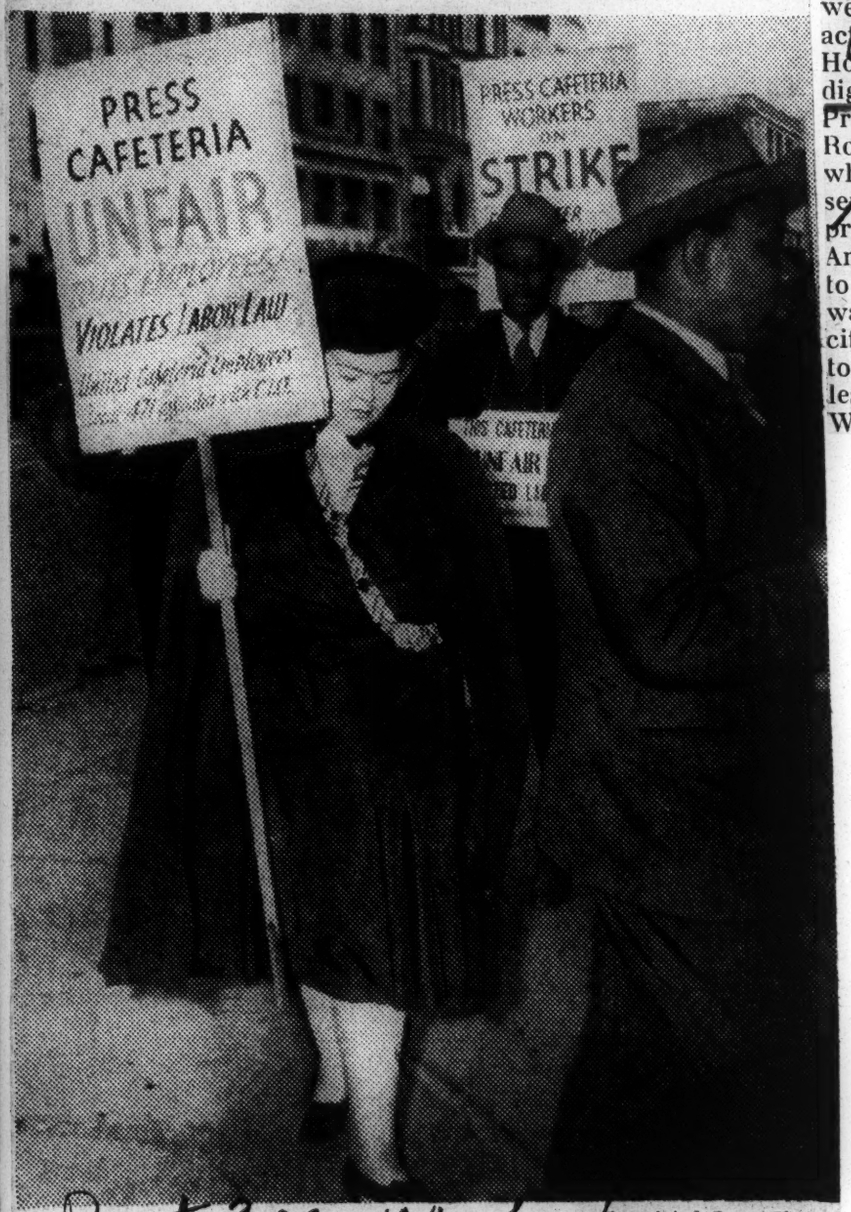
Associated Press

KATHRYN LEWIS

In Washington, a long lunch hour.

June 4-8-41

Lewis' Daughter Masters Pickets' Silent Technique



Post 3.29-40 Washington D.C.

Associated Press Photo

Kathryn Lewis, daughter of C. I. O. Chairman John L. Lewis, picked up a sign and joined the picket line yesterday in front of the National Press Building Cafeteria, Fourteenth and F streets northwest. When not picketing, Miss Lewis serves as her father's secretary

She Can't Leave Line in Cafeteria Strike to Talk; Shakes Her Head When Asked if Duty Is Hard Work

There is a technique involving silence in the round and round of picketing.

Miss Kathryn Lewis, child of the father of all C. I. O. pickets, John L. Lewis, has mastered the technique.

She walked in silence yesterday with a round of pickets at the National Press Building, where a cafeteria strike is progressing. Her first station was the F street side. Asked how the strike was standing up, Miss Lewis said: "I can't leave the picket line to talk."

"Hard work, picketing?"

Miss Lewis only shook her head.

"Why did you come to this particular strike?"

This time there was no answer. A deputation had come up to urge her assistance in the line at the Fourteenth street door.

White House Barber

SEP 4 1940

Washington D.C.

SOMETIMES after a night of trying to forget the "secrets" that statesmen have shouted into our ears, we think the most admirable character in Washington is the White House barber. This ancient colored dignitary, who has trimmed every Presidential pate from Roosevelt I to Roosevelt II, has one simple rule, which probably explains his long-term service. He won't talk—not to the press, not even to be photographed. And he asks the White House staff not to give out his name. We knew there was no news in this story; but, in this city of babel, it's somehow satisfying to write our little tribute to the nameless, newsless, uniquely talk-less White House barber.

'Sitdown' Held Not to Violate Sherman Act

Supreme Court Splits, 6-3, in Apex Case Over Union Damages

By John B. Oakes

The Supreme Court majority, over the dissent of three members, yesterday held that a restraint of trade caused by a sit-down strike "of the most brutal and wanton character" did not violate the Sherman Act.

Passing on the Apex Hosiery Co. case, in which a Federal District Court had awarded the company $700,000 in damages against the union involved, the court held that the restraint did not have an effect upon prices in the market or deprive purchasers or consumers of the advantages which they derive from free competition," and therefore was not "the kind of restraint at which the act is aimed.

The union engaging in the strike was the C. I. O.'s American Federation of Full-Fashioned Hosiery Workers.

Justice Harlan Fiske Stone, who was supported by the five New Deal appointees, maintained that the Sherman Act is not intended "to police interstate transportation or to afford a remedy for wrongs . . . actionable under State law," but to prevent restraints on trade such as price control, discrimination between purchasers, or monopolization of supply.

On the other hand, Chief Justice Hughes, joined by Justices James C. McReynolds and Owen J. Roberts, suggested that the majority opinion might open up "vistas of new uncertainties in the application of the Sherman Act."

In answer to the majority view that mere interference with interstate commerce, even though purposeful, is not enough to bring strikers under the antitrust law, the Chief Justice said: "It is the direct and intentional prevention of interstate commerce that turns the scales."

Recalling that "employers are bound by the Labor Act" because of possible interference with interstate commerce, Chief Justice Hughes declared it "anomalous if interference by employes with interstate shipments is not held to be a restraint of interstate commerce "under the broad terms of the Sherman Act."

The Supreme Court's opinion, which makes it clear that labor unions—under certain circumstances—can come within the Sherman Act, is expected to prove an important guide post for the Department of Justice in its current campaign against allegedly monopolistic practices of some unions.

CIO Hails Victory

Assistant Attorney General Thurman Arnold, in charge of the anti-trust division, declared last night that "the opinion appears to sustain all of the pending prosecutions brought by the anti-trust division where labor unions are involved, since these prosecutions are all directed against the kind of interference with competitive conditions declared illegal by Mr. Justice Stone."

"A notable victory for the CIO," commented Lee Pressman, CIO general counsel. The opinion "establieshes once and for all" that legitimate union activities are exempt from the Serman Act, he said.

In this connection, the majority opinion held that some union activities, even when they do restrict competition, are not considered restraints of trade under the Sherman out that wage agreements "may Act. The Court specifically pointed have some influence on price competition" by preventing price differentials based on wage cuts—but this is not "the kind of curtailment of price competition prohibited by the Sherman Act."

Collusion Only Offense

In some quarters it was held that almost the only form of union activity that can now be brought under the antitrust law is collusion with employers to fix prices. In yesterday's opinion, the court indicated again that this type of restraint is forbidden by law.

It was also said by some observers yesterday that jurisdictional disputes are taken out from under the Sherman Act, as they may be held not to interfere with competition.

"Restrictions on competition or on the course of trade in the merchadising of articles in interstate commerce is not enough unless the restraint is shown to have or is intended to have an effect upon prices in the market or otherwise to deprive purchasers or consumers of the advantages which they may deprive from free competition," said Justice Stone.

"Here it is plain," he added, "that the combination or conspiracy did not have as its purpose restraint upon competition. . . . The delay of these shipments was not intended to have and had no effect on the prices of hosiery in the market."

Justice Stone asserted that the record revealed "a lawless invasion" of the Apex plant in 1937, "and destruction of its property by force and violence of the most brutal and wanton character, under leadership and direction of respondents (the union) and without interference by the local authorities." Bue, he said, "violence, however reprehensible, does not give the Federal courts jurisdiction."

Negroes To Vote On C.I.O. or A.F.L.

SEP 21 1940

WASHINGTON.—(ANP)—Some 700 Negro workers in the paving industry, representing about 95 per cent of the total number of workers so engaged are expected to take part in the general election to be held within the next two weeks to determine whether the SIO or its rival organization, the A. F. of L., is to represent them as a bargaining agent.

Employed by some nine contractors, who have a loose association among themselves, the workers were denied the right to organize until the United Construction workers took the case before the department of labor, which ordered the contractors to permit the workers to hold an open election.

Declaring that the men are being exploited in the matter of wages, the UCW of the CIO says that although the wage rates are paid workers, they are paid on a 30-hour basis rather than on the 48-hour basis which hours the men actually work.

Doing effective work in organizing the men, the CIO has been promised some 600 of the total number of votes to be cast, and a committee of some 16 representatives of every phase of the work from the entire group has declared in favor of the CIO group.

Meetings here being held weekly by the organizers in the Garnett Patterson school, in the hope of educating the workers to the benefits to be derived from the affiliating with the CIO group.

A.F.L. And New Deal Blamed For Negroes Losing Jobs In D.C.

By RIENZI B. LEMUS
Special to The New York Age

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Discussing discrimination against Negroes at the Washington Terminal Restaurant, in a Sunday afternoon address to the Harlem YMCA back in 1916, the dean of "the upper" college in a leading Negro university deprecated the colored waiters of that restauran with the obser vation that, if the dean were a waiter he would not work in an establishment which discriminated against his race.

OCT 12 1940

Ten years later, a bishop of the AME Zion Church seated himself in the main dining-room at Union Station, remain unnoticed until he protested the neglect and thus forced the management to admit that colored patronage was not desirable, and colored persons could not get service in the place. The bishop contacted James A. (Billboard) Jackson, then managing editor of a local weekly. Mr. Jackson immediately went to the office of the Terminal Manager, the late Mr. Tonge, who at once summoned the restaurant operator and ordered "no more racial discrimination" in the establishment. That ended it.

Now Washington Terminal Restaurant is operated by The Union News Co. They have made the place modernistic, so much so that though colored patronage is welcomed, Negro waiters are not. Colored diners may, ever do, sit wherever they desire in the new restaurant, to be served by white waitresses. And thus it has happened that the upper college dean's wish is a reality. In less than 25 years, colored patronage is in, Negro waiters out of Washington's Union Station, and out when the plant's capacity is being expanded, thus requiring increases in employee personnel. Of such, though, are New Deal contrasts in respect to colored Americans. Yet, the situation is not altogether grave potentially—despite the New Deal! This is so because of war, and our consequential shift from a peace to a war economy.

A. F. of L. Blamed

Last colored waiters finally ousted from Washington's first-class hostelries were of the adept party service staff at The Raleigh. That happened about three years ago, thanks to the American Federation of Labor Union, by grace of the New Deal, took entire control of the industry's employees here. But the perturbing element in that situation is the stated fact of most employees being foreign-born; who are yet fluent in their mother-tongues and, owing to the implications of the German-Italian-Japanese alliance, cast a shadow over the scene. It is said that guests' peace of mind is so disturbed that hotel operators have already begun to ease the situation by gradual infiltration of colored employes. I have heard that some of the big-time hostelries have posted signs about the premises forbidding employees to discuss the war situation, because few could know what the foreigners were saying, maybe plotting.

OCT 12 1940

But colored waiters are out of Union Station Restaurant. Ousted in June, 1939, when Savarins gave up as their lease expired, and when the American Federation of Labor had just finished organizing the colored waiters. Altogether, Negroes had served in Washington station restaurants more than 50 years—unorganized. Recession of "the Negro" worker is a flagrant incidence of the New Deal.

Fight On To Stop Bootleg Operators

Mrs. Joyner In Washington Seeking Legislation For The Protection Of Beauticians

Black Dispatch

Blames Unlimited Hours, Cutting Prices, and Bootlegging as Three Main Evils of the Trade

DEC 21 1940

Is Most Profitable Business For Negro

Oklahoma City, Okla.

WASHINGTON.—(ANP)—In an effort to protect beauty culturists throughout the country and to eliminate "bootleggers" and "wild-cat" operators in the profession, Mrs. Marjorie Stewart Joyner, national supervisor of the Mme. C. J. Walker colleges, also national legislative chairman of the National Beauty Culturists League, Inc., is in Washington in the interest of a bill which would give beauty culturists at large the protection they have long sought.

Declaring that three items are contributing to the decrease in the business of the licensed culturists, Mrs. Joyner has concerned herself with taking steps to eliminate these practices and to further the interests of the group in general.

Representing 64 locals, scattered throughout the country, with a reputed membership of some 26,000 persons, Mrs. Joyner points out that this organized effort to obtain redress from the evils which have fallen on the profession, has the backing of several well known national figures.

Naming price cutting as one of the chief evils, unlimited hours, and the operations of the bootlegging beautician as the others, Mrs. Joyner points out that legislation suitable to the elimination of these three evils will be sought and if presented before congress for enatcment, will be carried out.

Showing that these evils lead to mass economic faults, lower the standard of living for the workers and licensed operators, Mrs. Joyner states that as a whole the beauty culture operations engage the largest number of young Negro workers, male and female, constitute a big source of revenue for the government in taxes, manufacturing of cosmetics, customers for utility concerns, tenants for stores and other premises and there by contribute to the economic status of the country large sums of money annually.

The invoking of regular hours for workers in the shops is another point in Mrs. Joyner's schedule. The fact that there is no limitation of working hours throws the balance of trade out of proportion and forces shops that would permit their operators to have regular hours to keep open in order to compete with those which disregard these factors.

Seeking such regulations to benefit the workers in the shops, for health, civic and social reasons, Mrs. Joyner is calling together a group to attend a meeting to be held on January 13, to which the public in general will be invited, to hear the proposals that are expected to be incorporated in the bills she hopes to get before Congress.

All local beauticians are urged to immediately contact the national legislative chairman, Mrs. Stewart at 1306 You Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Further urging beauticians to write their congressmen and senators from all parts of the country, Mrs. Joyner hopes to have the united support of the entire group in her efforts to get some legislation which will eliminate the wild-catters and bootleggers who are undermining the most profitable investment and careers for Negroes in the United States.

SAYS NEGRO SEEKS TO CHANGE OTHERS TO HIS UNION

By RIENZI B. LEMUS

JACKSONVILLE, Fla.—(ANP)—A forlorn figure hereabouts is Solon C. Bell of Chicago. Mr. Bell is general chairman of the Joint Council of Dining Car Employes, the jimcrow administrative setup of the prejudiced A. F. of L. Hotel and Restaurant Workers and Barkeepers International union, supposed to represent organized dining car workers of the affiliation. His mission here is to persuade dining car cooks and waiters on the Atlantic Coast Line railroad to forsake their union and join his, and thereon hangs a story of public interest.

Coast Line is a season road, overwhelmed in the Florida winter seasons, not unlike a dried-up river in summer. Last year it inaugarated tavern-car service on its new streamlined all coach train, the Champion, and on its old companion, the Vacationer.

White men had charge of the latter, colored waiters-in-charge of the new Champion. Late in February colored men supplanted white men on the Vacationer. Mr. Bell's international A. F. of L. union wants those barkeepers' places on Champion and Vacationer for white men.

Only way to get them would be throught Coast Line men joining his union, thus permitting negotiation of a new contract. Supplanting colored men on the New Haven railroad, manifest desire of the Pennsylvania to do the same thing a year or so ago, and signing of a contract by Mr. Bell's group on the Seaboard Air Line which paves way for such, have greatly encouraged the A. F. of L.'s hope of soon and finally eliminating colored cooks and waiters from all choice dining car and tavern-car jobs.

Last November the international suspended the Joint Council of Dining Car Employes from functioning, shut off its supply of finance, in order to be rid of the secretary-treasurer, whose public utterances gave offense to the president of the A. F. of L., and in the three-days' meet they held in Chicago in December to so act as to get reinstated reports for the entire year 1939 revealed the dining car union's total membership all over the country to be less than 1,000.

It was 870 financial members, not including 100 reinstated at that meeting. Forasmuch as finances of a union shall have to be paid in by members, it was obvious that the joint council doesn't get funds from its own membres in sufficient amount to pay expenses of Mr. Bell and a raft of organizers to pester Coast Line men from Washington to Miami, Fla.

Mr. Bell is a forlorn figure on this mission owing to incomparably better pay and superior working condition of Coast Line men than is true in either instance of men on the Seaboard Air Line, organized by Mr. Bell's group, which made their working agreemen with the Seaboard management. For example, one asset to a rail worker is "seniority," cumulative generally with increasing years of employment. Prior to coming to coming of Mr. Bell's organization there was no restriction on Seaboard seniority—as it isn't yet on Coast Line.

Mr. Bell's Seaboard contract, however, stops seniority for a newcomer at 32 years of age; permits the management's practice of "furloughing" less old employes a month at a time within a calendar year in order to prevent them from acquiring seniority rating by a year's continuous employment. Thus it will happen that in a few years no colored cook or waiters shall have seniority, thereby paving the way for newcomer whites to get the jobs.

Says Negro Seeks To Change Others To His Union

JACKSONVILLE, Fla.—(By Rienzi B. Lemus for ANP)—A forlorn figure hereabouts is Solon C. Bell of Chicago. Mr. Bell is general chairman of the Joint Council of Dining Car Employees, the jimcrow administrative setup of the prejudiced A. F. of L. Hotel and Restaurant Workers and Barkeepers International Union, supposed to represent organized dining car workers of the affiliation. His mission here is to persuade dining car cooks and waiters on the Atlantic Coast Line railroad to forsake their union and join his and thereon hangs a story of public interest.

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Youth Congress T National Confab

Herman H. Long, Pres dent of the Southern Neg Youth Congress announce today that his organizatio had a representative at th Conference of Leaders National Organizations, A gust 1st and at the Willar Hotel, Washington, D. C.

The Conference dealt with problems of consumers and t role the socials service organiz tions could play in the progra of National Defense. The invit tion came from Commission Harriet Elliot of the Nation Defense Commission.

"The SNYC was represented l our National Vice Chairman, Mi Thelma Dale.

Lakeland, Fla., Ledger & Star Tele
October 3, 1940

Jenkins Named Treasurer Of Phosphate Union

MULBERRY, Oct. 3—(Special) Members of the Mulberry Phosphate Workers Credit union have voted to employ Leartis Jenkins as treasurer, it was announced today.

Jenkins will be the only paid member of the organization.

Members announced for the board of directors were Grady Barnett, J. C. Jones, J. W. Powers, W. R. Dewey and Jenkins.

A credit committee, which wil meet weekly, includes E. H. Pipkin, Sr., R. F. Aiken and W. A Rollins.

Herman White will serve as advisor to the committee acting in behalf of the negro members of the union.

The supervising committee includes R. O. Stewart, J. E. Windham and George Brown. Jack Sheets was named chairman of the educational committee.

Organized to help members with their financial problems, the union will require the complete cooperation of the entire membership in order to be a success, David Rambo, federal government representative, told the group at a meeting Tuesday night.

West Palm Beach, Fla. Post
October 6, 1940

HOUSING PROJECT WHOLLY UNIONIZED

"Closed Shop" Affecting Half Of Laborers Is Put Into Effect Here

Only union men, including common laborers, will be employed in the construction of Southridge, white housing project at Lake Avenue and Southern Boulevard, L. Dale Zent, West Palm Beach Housing Authority director, said Saturday.

Word received from the regional housing authority Saturday, Mr. Zent said, gave an opinion holding that the contract gave unions the right to demand that all workers be union members.

About half of the 50 or 60 common laborers now working on the project already belong to the International Hod-Carriers, Building and Common Laborers Union, affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, Mr. Zent said. The others now must join or be discharged.

The "closed shop" came as the result of a meeting between union and contractor's representatives during the week when union representatives insisted that the common laborers "closed shop" be established at the union at the meeting, Mr. Zent said.

Organizer for the common laborers union at Southridge was Al Hurd, business agent for the sheet metal workers local union. Mr. Zent said the ruling affects both white and negro workers.

Jim Crowism Still Rampant In Labor Union Despite Law

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the second of a series of three articles on labor unions and discrimination in their relation with the state law prohibiting discrimination against workers because of race, creed or color.

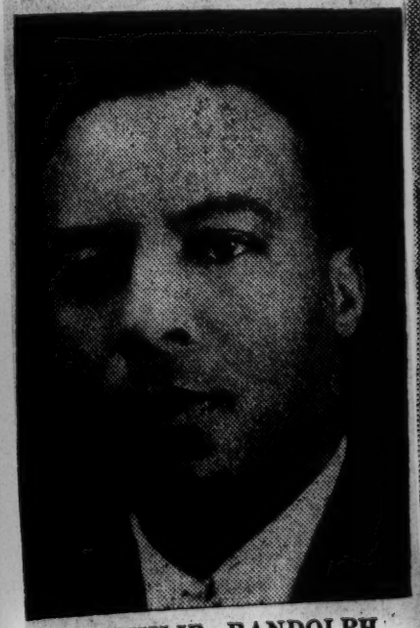
By A. M. WENDELL MALLIET

'Unfair' Unions Listed . . .

As far back as 1930, Dr. Ira De A. Reid, author of "Negro Membership in Labor Unions" listed 24 international unions which "excluded Negroes from membership through provisions in their constitutions or rituals." The list follows:

The International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Iron Shipbuilders and Helpers of America, The International Association of Machinists, The Brotherhood of Railway and Steamship Clerks, Freight Handlers, Express and Station Employees, The Brotherhood of Dining Car Conductors, The Order of Sleeping Car Conductors, The Order of Railway Conductors of America, The Grand International Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, The Order of Railway Expressmen and The American Federation of Express Workers.

Also The Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen, The National Organization of Masters, Mates and Pilots of North America, The Neptune Association, The American Federation of Railway Workers, The Switchmen's Union of North America, The Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen, The Brotherhood of Railway Station Employees and Clerks, The American Association of Train Despatchers, The Railway Yard Masters of North America, Railway Mail Association, The American Wire Weavers Protective Association, The Order of Railroad Telegraphers and the Commercial Telegraphers Union of America.



A. PHILIP RANDOLPH

NOAH WALTER

In addition, The Transport Workers Union has been condemned for its policy of exclusion of Negroes drives on the buses of the Fifth Avenue Coach Company although it has a contract with the company. The charge has also been made that discrimination against the Negro in organized labor is more in evidence in the highly skilled and technical trades.

Discrimination Subtle

In some of these unions, it was said, discrimination takes on a subtle form. Negroes may be admitted to membership in unions, but are limited as to the nature of their work and the rate of pay. This was said to be the case in local 3, Electrical Workers Union in Long Island City which admits Negro members, not as electricians but as workers on lamps and novelties.

The Steamfitters and Plumbers Union, has also been accused of similar tactics. But the situation of the International Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen was said to call for special consideration. The Brotherhood has ruled against Negro membership in their union, but gave the American Federation of Labor jurisdiction of 1000 Negro stevedores who handle freight in the New York train yards. The Brotherhood organized the Negroes in an auxiliary group which has no vote, no power to formulate policies and no representation with their employers, except through the Brotherhood which does not admit them as members.

Discrimination against the Negro in labor unions, according to Lester B. Granger, former director of the New York State Temporary Commission on the Condition of the Urban Colored Population, has largely been found in the camp of the American Federation of Labor. He said that the entrance of the C.I.O. into the labor field has opened the way to large scale admission of Negroes into legitimate unions.

C.I.O. Went to Fore

Because the C.I.O., through its Brotherhood of Radio and Electrical Workers, took in Negroes the A. F. of L. was forced to open its books to Negroes in local 3, Electrical Workers Union, although only to limited membership. They took them in such jobs that paid only $16 a week, but not jobs that paid $35 and $40 a week.

New York's 75,000 to 100,000 Negro trade unionists are largely to be found in the laundry industry, building trades, building service and garment industry. Some are longshoremen, maritine workers, red caps, Pullman porters, transport workers and taxicab operators; but not bread, beer, milk wagon drivers, or white collar workers with the private public utility corporations, such as the telephone, electric and gas companies.

Mr. Granger listed the kinds of discrimination that the Negro worker or trade unionist faces in his search for work, namely, (1) ban against the Negro from membership; (2) admission in the union with a limited membership which keeps the Negro worker on the lowest job level; (3) admission to membership in the union but through a tacit understanding among the officials and the business agents of the union the Negro is seldom if ever referred to a job; (4) admission to the union but the worker is restricted to a job territory, as practiced by Musicians local 802, the Motion Picture Operators Union, local 306, and the Bartenders and Restaurant Employees Union, local 1 of the Hotel and Restaurant Employees International Alliance.

District Council 9 of the Painters Union was said to have dropped its bar against Negro painters as a result of the so-called "left wing" reorganization in 1936.

Both Labor Groups Oppose Jim Crow In Nat'l Defense Jobs

Assurance Is Given Hillman

OCT 27 1940

Color Bar Is Attacked By Organized Labor

WASHINGTON, D. C. — (ANP)—The American Federation of Labor and the Congress of Industrial Organizations have both agreed to assume responsibility for seeing that Negro workers are not discriminated against in national defense employment, it was announced here Wednesday by Sydney Hillman, in charge of the labor division for the National Defense Advisory commission.

This important development in the commission's program of integrating Negro skilled and unskilled workers into the defense activities was revealed by Dr. Robert C. Weaver, administrative assistant in the division of labor supply, in a conference with Lester B. Granger, assistant executive secretary of the National Urban league, and representatives of local Urban leagues.

HILLMAN ASSURED

According to Dr. Weaver, both the A. F. of L. and CIO have assured Sidney Hillman, labor commissioner, that trade unions affiliated with the two influential labor organizations will carry out the commission's non - discrimination labor policy stipulation that "Workers should not be discriminated against because of age, sex, race or color."

The assurances were obtained as the result of a series of conferences between Mr. Hillman, Dr. Weaver, and representatives of the A. F. of out of violations of the policy. This step is already being formulated.

In revealing the development, Dr Weaver said:

OCT 27 1940

"One of the largest obstacles to securing equitable employment opportunities for Negroes in the defense program has been the contention of employers that the introduction of Negro skilled and unskilled workers would lead to serious labor difficulties and reduce efficiency because of the resentment of white labor.

NOT AGAINST NEGROES

"This statement of policy adopted by the American Federation of Labor and the Congress of Industrial Organizations indicates that organized labor does not intend to be an impediment to increased occupational opportunities for Negroes. It reaffirms the statements repeatedly made by Negroes that the employment of colored workers will not occasion the type of difficulty indicated by employers.

"In addition to its significance to the all-important problem of employment, it is also pertinent to the problem of vocational training for Negroes for the national defense. With the support of organized labor, it should be possible for local communities and State departments of vocational education to expand appreciably the opportunities for Negro trainees under the current programs."

Dr. Weaver stated that this is one of the first steps taken by the NDAC to put into effect its policy.

"It is especially important," he said, "because it is an instrument which will facilitate tne employment of Negro labor with—rather than against—organized labor in America. Commissioner Hillman stressed this implication in his press conference."

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AS I SEE IT

By C. W. RICE

LABOR UNIONS RESPONSIBLE FOR NEGROES NOT GETTING WORK ON NATIONAL DEFENSE PROJECTS; DEFENSE BOARD AND EMPOLYERS PRACTICALLY POWERLESS UNDER GOVERNMENT LABOR SETUP; PRESSURE SHOULD BE BROUGHT ON FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO CORRECT SITUATION

NOV 16 1940

AS I SEE IT, it is plain dumbness or a "sell-out" on the part of certain Negro leadership who try to fix the blame for Negroes not getting work on defense projects to employers and the National Defense Board rather than the jim-crow labor unions.

Negro Labor News

Recently, just before the election, representatives of the American Federation of Labor and the Congress For Industrial Organization assured Sidney Hillman, chairman of the labor division for the National Defense Advisory Commission and Dr. Robert C. Weaver, his Negro assistant, they would assume the responsibility of seeing that Negroes are not discriminated against in getting National Defense employment.

AS I SEE IT, this is just another empty and meaningless statement repeatedly made by labor "bosses" for the face saving of some few Negro politicians who happen to be in strategic positions.

In order to pacify Negro labor voters when the defense bill was being debated a meaningless clause was attached to the bill which reads as fillows: "Workers should not be discriminated against because of age, sex, race or color." It is obvious this clause does not mean a thing. Had Negroes been on the alert and really understood defense jobs would be let to contractors who would comply with the National Labor Relations Act, they would have put some teeth in the clause by having it read: "Workers should not be discriminated against because of age, sex, race, color, or union affiliation.

Here's why Negroes cannot get skilled work on defense projects. In the first place, the government lets defense projects to contacting firms according to bidders. These firms are required to post bonds in order to insure completion of the project. Another requirement of the contractor to become eligible for the work is that he must agree to comply with the Wagner Labor Law, Wage-Hour Law, and Walsh-Haley Act. In complying with these various labor laws it is understood and imperative that employers use union labor.

It is well known that practically all craft unions practicularly in the American Federation of Labor through their rituals, by-laws and constitutions bar Negro workers from membership. Neither the defense board or the contractor have any control over the membership of such unions. All they can do is look to the unions for a sufficient number of qualified workers. So when the Negro files application for work according to his agreement with the union, the contractor refers him to union and here's where he (Negro applicant) is told "Negroes are not admitted into the union, or it is our policy to not work with non-union members."

AS I SEE IT, this practice will continue until the unions meet in Convention assemble and change their by-laws and constitutions by a majority vote to abolish discrimination against Negroes or Congress enact such legislation to prohibit labor unions that discriminate against workers on account of race from becoming the sole bargaining agency.

As conditions now stand, the employers who have been accustomed to working Negroes, and still prefer them, are forced to discharge them on nearly all skilled jobs because of the closed shop agreement with unions that bar Negroes from membership or discriminate against them on jobs.

Negroes should not give attention to promises made by most union leaders without investigating whether these promises can be fulfilled.

There are few well meaning labor leaders willing to give Negroes an equal break with all other workers but they cannot control the rank and file of their unions.

Hampton Jones

It was in 1935 when A. Phillip Randolph, head of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, seeking to have the color bar removed from unions, asked the A. F. of L. Convention assembled in Atlantic City: "Why should a Negro workers be penalized from being black?" Why should anybody be penalized for something over which they have no control—we are living in a time, he said, when there should be no division in race, religion, creed or nationality."

To show that he was in sympathy with Randolph's plea, Green, president of the American Federation of Labor counseled his affiliate unions that bar Negroes "If you would accept my advice, you would remove the color bar and make provisions for colored members." Despites Green's plea and that of Randolph's that convention upheld the "Democratic" right of affiliate unions to bar Negro members if they so desire.

As I have said many times before, Negroes being denied the right to work on account of color is a very serious problem and is fraught with more danger to destroy their economic welfare than any evil since the days of slavery. The following may give an idea how Negroes are being affected by the labor union bar:

In 1935, there were according to statistics approximately 50,000 Negro skilled workers eligible for membership in the unions but only a few were accepted. In many instances today there is reported a shortage of skilled labor and yet factories and mill after mill, project after project are forced to close their doors to Negro workers because of the operation of labor unions.

How can the guilty labor unions hold up their heads and face the world and cry loud in the defense of Democracy, right and justice to all mankind so long as they permit any section of workers in America to be discriminated against because they happen to be black.

AS I SEE IT, Negro leadership the country over, friends of Democracy and lovers of Liberty, should unite and bring pressure to bear on the Federal Government to wipe this great evil and destroyer of humanity out of existence. This like all other un-American activities, is striking at the very foundation upon which Democracy is built.

Negro Carpenters May Be Unionized

DEC 28 1940

A conference Monday night, December 23, between the Colored Builders Association of Kansas, and officials of the Carpenters union is expected to result in the unionization of Negro carpenters in the Kansas City area and the employment soon of skilled Negro workmen on the cantonment at Fort Riley.

Ethel Ray Call

Up to now, Negro carpenters have been denied work at Fort Riley because only union men are employed in the construction work there.

The conference, held at the home of F. L. Whitaker, builder and contractor, 925 Washington boulevard, Kansas City, Kas., was attended by Larry S. Braten, international organizer for the Brotherhood of Carpenters, and J. O. Mack, business agent for the carpenters' district council.

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Mr. Braten said that there is no constitutional provision barring Negroes from membership in the carpenters' union. He favored and seemed eager to organize a Negro local union at once, saying that a charter probably could be issued within 10 days.

Kansas City, Mo.

He said that the Negro local would have the same rights, obligations and opportunities as have the other seven local unions in the Kansas City area. The Negro local would have equal representation in the district council.

Mr. Braten said that he would go to Fort Riley Tuesday, December 24, to make arrangements for the employment of Negro carpenters as soon as they become unionized.

LABOR

A Job Is Worth Its Cost

DEC 27 1940

Because employers are not given to hiring Negroes nor unions to admitting them to membership there is and there should be a constant sustained effort at breaking through the barriers. But there is more to a job than that—the worker must be able to deliver.

At this time when a national emergency makes it opportune to open up a drive for employment, Negroes must be mindful of this which is their part in getting them jobs. Having asked employment they must deliver, deliver to the degree of excellence that the foremen over them and the men who work with them cannot charge them with incompetence. Difficult? Yes! But it is already understood among us that to get an even break in whatere we undertake, we must do more than is asked of whites, so why complain? A job is worth whatever it costs!

We realize that it is easier for us to give advice than it is for Negroes to be good workmen. Happily there are superior craftsmen among us, both shop and school trained, who show the way toward perfection. The "good enough" type of worker has cost Negroes too much.

Building a standard when opportunity is limited is a herculean task. Practice makes perfect, an advantage denied us so long as we are barred from employment. Literally we must do the impossible in order to be ready when opportunity knocks. Booker T. Washington's way of getting admitted to Hampton Institute illustrates one means to that end. Armed only with an intense desire for an education, he applied to Hampton. Some prophetic vision enabled the school official to recognize the hidden worth of the boy, though he had none of the usual qualifications. He was told to wait while his case was being given consideration, and in the meanwhile to sweep out the room in which he waited. Booker tells how he swept it, and kept on sweeping it His earnestness was rewarded. Doing one's best always pays better than "good enough."

If the Negro mechanic has only his own people who will employ him, that's job enough on which to take pride and show skill. Carver and the peanut is a Negro building a better mouse trap and thereby causing the whole world to make a beaten path to his door. A reputation for good work can be won, but not by ever doing less than one's best

The Negro was the builder of an ancient civilization, a skill repeated by his descendants who came to this country as slaves. Then white collar ambitions came in with more education, but the rule of 100% efficiency is neither white collar not blue jeans—it is the way of the man worthwhile which we must be before we get jobs. No fault in our surroundings, neither employers prejudice nor the competition of workers, relieves us of the necessity of being A-1 workers as the price of a job.

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GENERAL

Negro Youth Flay Dies' Blindness To KKK Activity

Report to Five-State Conference in Nashville Sees Witchhunt a Menace to U. S. Democracy; Urges End of Probe

(Special to the Daily Worker)

NASHVILLE, Tenn., Jan. 9.—The failure of the House Committee to Investigate Un-American Activities to inquire into the rapid revival in the South of the Ku Klux Klan was roundly scored today by Edward E. Strong, executive secretary of the Southern Negro Youth Congress, before an emergency session of the National Council of the Congress which convened here during the Christmas holidays.

The youth leaders who had assembled from Alabama, Georgia, Virginia, Louisiana, Washington, D. C., and Tennessee, were told that "democracy in the United States is threatened by the Dies Committee which is supposed to be investigating un-American activities but which in reality is working to destroy the influence of those organizations which have worked unceasingly during the last few years to extend democracy to all people, including the American Negro."

Mr. Strong reported that "the Dies Committee has failed to take action upon or even acknowledge a letter from the national office of the Southern Negro Youth Congress asking for the investigation of the reviving Ku Klux Klan. It has overlooked every organized group in the United States whose program is designed to maintain the sordid theories of Nordic superiority. The House Committee to Investigate Un-American Activities, under the chairmanship of Congressman Martin Dies of Texas, is dangerously menacing the civil liberties of the American people and is working to create a psychology which will accept the entrance of the United States into the European war."

"The Dies Committee," Mr. Strong further stated, "should be abolished and the coming session of the Congress should refuse to appropriate another cent for the continuation of the Committee."

The emergency session of the National Council considered at length the implications of the European war for Southern young people and authorized the National Office of the Congress to draft a peace proclamation for submission to the fifty local councils of the Congress for their consideration and approval.

A report from Mr. Raymond R. Tillman, vice-chairman of the Congress, urging that the Fourth All-Southern Negro Youth Conference be held in the city of New Orleans, Louisiana, April 18 to 21 1940 was unanimously approved.

Mr. Tillman predicted that the Fourth All-Southern Negro Youth Conference will have at least two thousand young people participating from every Southern state, and that it will undoubtedly be the largest conference of young Negro people ever held, either in the United States or abroad.

Mr. Tillman reported that "the New Orleans Council of the SNYC is able to assure Southern Negro young people that when they convene in New Orleans in April, they will participate in a conference which will write another important chapter in the history of our people in America, and youth groups should begin now to prepare for this eventful assembly of our people."

The recommendations of Prof. Randolph Edmonds, professor of drama at Dillard University, that the Congress work toward the holding of a super-festival of Negro culture, patterned after the Danish and Irish festivals, in the summer of 1941 or 1942 was approved by the emergency session of the council and a committee under the leadership of Prof. Edmonds, Prof John Ross of Fisk University, and Miss Margaret Valiant of the National Youth Administration was established to furthe rthe plans for the festival.

Dr. James E. Jackson, Jr., of Virginia, Miss Thelma Dale of Washington, D. C., and Mr. Albert F. Seay of Tennessee, all vice-chairmen of the Congress, and Mr. Carleton Lee, Hi-Y secretary of the Southern Area Council YMCA, were among the prominent youth leaders to participate in the emergency session of the National Council. Adult observers included Mrs. Edmonia Grant, secretary of the Nashville YWCA, and Mr. William H. Shell, assistant on Negro affairs for the National Youth Administration of Georgia.

Mrs. Mary McCleod Bethune sent a telegram of greeting as follows: "The National Youth Administration and the National Council of Negro Women bid me greet you and wish for a successful and far visioned session. I am with you. God bless you. Mary McCleod Bethune."

Congress Asked To Hold Up Dies Committee Funds

Group Failed To Investigate Lynching

NEW YORK—(SNS)— Because the House Committee investigating un-American activities, under the chairmanship of Representative Martin Dies, of Texas has been conducting hearings for "more than a year, but has willfully failed to investigate the Ku Klux Klan, the Black Legion, or the question of lynching and mob violence by organized groups," the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has asked Congress to consider this phase of the Committee's laxity before determining whether to vote funds for its continuance for another year.

The N.A.A.C.P.'s attitude toward the Dies Committee was expressed in a letter sent out today to Speaker of the House, William B. Bankhead, of Alabama, who appointed the committee June 7, 1938.

Pointing out that the Association has "carefully followed the proceedings of the Committee since its inception," the letter accuses the Committee of failing "either to investigate or hold hearings on the Black Legion, the Ku Klux Klan or mob violence by organized groups."

THE "GO SIGNAL"

The letter said that failure on the part of the committee to investigate these un-American activities has resulted in giving them the " 'go' signal," and this, despite the fact that the N. A. A. C. P. had written Dies at least five times during the committee's activity, urging an investigation of these un-American groups.

The letter gave the following dates, as the periods when these facts were brought to Dies' attention; June 8, 1938, the day after the committee was appointed by Speaker Bankhead; August 30, 1938 February 7 1939 shortly after the life of the Committee had been extended a year, together with an appropriation of $100,000; February 27, 1939; and July 17, 1939. In each of these instances, the letter said accompanying facts were presented to give tangible evidence of the native American subversive activities.

The letter to Bankhead concludes with the statement asking that the House consider these matters when Dies asks for another appropriation to extend the Committee's work in- to 1940

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GENERAL

THE WAY of ALL THINGS

By JOHN H. SENGSTACKE

DEC 14 1940

NEGRO LABOR

A number of important events in labor history have been recorded in the last few weeks. John L. Lewis made good his promise and resigned as president of the C.I.O.; Phillip Murray replaced him. A new Labor Board chairman, Harry Alvin Mills, has been appointed; the A.F. of L. and C.I.O. annual conventions adjourned without making peace with each other. Among other important happenings the Labor Board has won victories in six different cases before the Supreme Court. However, there is one important phase of the labor struggle that appears stalemated. Where does Negro labor stand in this shifting scene?

Less than a month ago we noted headlines in the press stating that both the C.I.O. and the A.F. of L. had agreed, in accordance with President Roosevelt's wishes, to drop racial barriers in national defense employment. The announcement of this agreement was made by Sidney Hillman, director of the labor division of the National Defense Advisory Commission. However, despite all the statements and pledges made we have yet to note any noticeable increase in the employment of Negroes in the defense program.

ROOSEVELT MORAL INFLUENCE

The fact that our problem really lies in the management of industrial firms who refuse to employ Race workers in violation of the Wagner Labor Act is more evident than ever.

This barrier of racial prejudice must be torn down and we must give precise and definite support to a drive to force these big business firms to give us our share of employment.

We already have the great moral influence of President Roosevelt and with his full political power added to our drive, the interest of Negro workers will be protected.

About three months ago John L. Lewis urged the members of the C.I.O. to fight against those firms violating the Wagner Act. He urged them to "protect their inherent and statutory rights of labor to organize and bargain collectively."

This position taken by Lewis helped thousands of Negro workers, but our attack must shift now to prevent these corporations from denying us an opportunity to work because of our color. John L. Lewis and the C.I.O. have given the Negro an opportunity to become an integral part of organized labtr. His policies have admitted Negroes into labor groups who have heretofore discriminated against Negroes. Lewis, adamant in will and intransigent in his determination not to relinquish the field without a total victory, has now resigned and Phillip Murray assumes the responsibility of continuing the bold stand taken by his predecessor.

LETTER TO DR. LOGAN

In a letter to Dr. Rayford W. Logan, John L. Lewis, in October, wrote:

"I should like to take this occasion to express to you my own personal and official support of the efforts of your committee to prevent discrimination against Negroes in the national defense program . . . The C.I.O. has always been strongly opposed to discrimination against Negroes. It has not only stated such opposition but it has refused to allow such discrimination to arise within its own ranks.

"Similarly, the C.I.O. believes that the Negro people should not be discriminated against when they offer their services in the national defense . . . You may be sure that I and other representatives of the C.I.O. will do everything possible to see that such a policy is established and implemented by the United States Government . . ."

We hope that Phillip Murray will continue that aggressive leadership and add more pages to the history of organized labor as written by John L. Lewis. We hope that he will endorse our movement to protect black labor from the vicious un-American prejudices that are the very essence of the color bar.

FORTRESS OF PREJUDICE

The maintenance of such a position would strengthen the C.I.O. and help safeguard our democracy. Such an aggressive policy would make those industrialists who are violating the provisions of our labor laws know that labor is taking a new step toward the defense of democracy and the establishment of internal peace. A continuation of such a policy will strike like a bumb against the fortress of color prejudice.

We, however, cannot expect the C.I.O. or any other labor organization to take the lead, for Negro labor itself must strike first for more job opportunities. Negroes must begin now, while we have a sympathetic administration, to declare themselves against those unprincipled and un-American firms that are withholding economic opportunity from black Americans.

In a democracy the right to work is inherent to all men. To be denied this right is to be sentenced to death and starvation.

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GENERA L

'Need Men Like Lincoln Today,' Says Widow of Albert Parson

Lucy Parsons Urges Fight On Reaction

By Lucy Parsons

Those of us whose memories go back to Abraham Lincoln's time often wish today for a president with the courage and stamina to stand by the movement he has led and see it through to victory.

Lincoln became the leader of the abolitionist movement supported by millions bitterly opposed to the brutal enslavement of the Negro people. He withstood tremendous pressure from powerful selfish groups interested in the continuation of slavery; he signed the Emancipation Proclamation and saw the end of legal chattel slavery before his death.

A classic story at the time of Lincoln's presidency was of his seeing a slave auction in the South as a young man and saying, "If I ever have a chance to hit that thing, I will hit it and hit hard." The Emancipation Proclamation was the consummation of that personal aim as well as the fulfilment of the purpose of a great mass movement.

Deserted by Its Leaders

To me it has been a gerat disappointment that in the closing years of my life I have seen a great historical movement deserted by its leader. During the past seven years the New Deal became the rallying point and symbol of a broad progressive movement in the direction of genuine democracy and economic security.

Today, we see the former leader of that movement going backwards. In his recent message to Congress which was hailed in England and France as a war speech, Roosevelt turned his back on relief, WPA, NYA and the other social agencies of the New Deal and urged the spending of millions more on arms which everyone knows could be used only in fighting an offensive war.

First Step in General Attack

Instead of urging the defense of civil liberties, as in the past, Roosevelt now says opposition groups must be suppressed. First step has been an effort to silence the leaders of the Communist Party by railroading them to prison on minor technical charge. Everyone and every group that values civil rights should protest to the utmost against this political persecution. An attack on Communist leaders is always the first step in a general attack on all minority groups and on all civil liberties.

Persecution and violence are always the weapons of capitalist forces when their selfish interests are threatened. Those of us who lived through the terrible days of the police-provoked Haymarket bombing and the judicial murder of labor leaders that followed could never forget that lesson. We see the effort to silence Communist leaders as the first step in preparation for more persecutions.

The whole Haymarket affair was an unsuccessful attempt on the part of the capitalists to break a rapidly growing movement for the eight-hour day. That movement grew at a tremendous rate after the Civil War. Workers had supported President Lincoln in the emancipation movement because they knew that the first step in the improvement of their own wages and living standards had to be the freeing of the slaves and improvement of the living standards of the Negro people.

Fight for 8-Hour Day

After the Civil War and the freeing of the slaves, trade unions grew rapidly. The Knights of Labor became a strong organization, leading the fight for the eight-hour day. The standard work-day at that time was "from sun to sun." Hours of work from 12 to 15 and more were the rule. "The eight-hour day" was the organizing slogan of the time, and Chicago became a center of organization and labor union strength.

Plans for the first May Day demonstration developed here. The first May Day took the form of a general strike against the 12-hour day. The movement was successful and employers all over the city were signing eight-hour agreements with their workers when the big capitalists became alarmed and started a wave of police violence against striking and demonstrating workers. The famous Haymarket meeting was called in protest against that violence.

Seven leaders of the eight-hour movement were hanged, but the movement could not be stopped. Violence and judicial coercion can never stop the advances of the workers if they will rally their forces more closely to meet such attacks and throw them back.

We are entering a period now which corresponds in many ways to the time of the Haymarket assault on the workers. Reactionaries think they see a chance to smash and divide the people. If the workers, the unemployed, the Negro people, the working farmers, small business men will rally to meet this attack as the workers of 18[illegible] the attack on the[illegible] ment nothing. John L. [illegible] smashing betraya[illegible] warr[illegible] can[illegible] no[illegible] ev[illegible] j[illegible]

Discrimination Hurts Unionism

The principle of union labor is right, but unions discredit their own cause when they deny the benefits of unionism to some workers arbitrarily. The right of certain workers to a decent living is not exclusive. There is no "chosen people" in labor. We all buy in the same market at the same price, and perforce must earn on an equality or the more unfortunate will suffer social maladjustments that hurt everybody. No truer word was ever spoken than Booker T. Washington's statement that to keep another down, the oppressor must get down in the gutter with his victim.

This arbitrary denial of union advantages to Negroes is a well established custom that has effect even outside the work unions control. Recently it was proposed to put Negroes in the city hall as custodians, a total of forty-seven jobs. This work is not organized. Union labor has absolutely nothing to do with it. Yet the change was blocked and the explanation given is "union labor opposed the hiring of Negroes." Labor denies the charge. We hope it did not, but it might as well have opposed Negroes in this work which it does not control as to keep them from being carpenters, brick masons and craftsmen of the many trades it does control.

Here and now the world is in the throes of a great change. Already a labor set up in Germany bears the name of union, but which is absolute mastery over the worker as abject as ever a slave suffered. The attack of dictator statesmanship over there will be duplicated here. Labor's best defense, in fact its only defense, is fellowship, a living wage and fair working conditions for all. Otherwise at the first onslaught, the unions will find themselves hit in flank and rear by the multitude of workers outside their ranks.

Justice or any other principle grows stronger in the degree it is lived. What a tragedy it will be for unionism, an ideal that has done so much good, to fall. But fall it must unless it changes and stops trying to monopolize work by arbitrarily excluding workers whose only fault is that God saw fit to make them black!

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GENERA L

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Discrimination Hurts Unionism

The principle of union labor is right, but unions discredit their own cause when they deny the benefits of unionism to some workers arbitrarily. The right of certain workers to a decent living is not exclusive. There is no "chosen people" in labor. We all buy in the same market at the same price, and perforce must earn on an equality or the more unfortunate will suffer social maladjustments that hurt everybody. No truer word was ever spoken than Booker T. Washington's statement that to keep another down, the oppressor must get down in the gutter with his victim.

This arbitrary denial of union advantages to Negroes is a well established custom that has effect even outside the work unions control. Recently it was proposed to put Negroes in the city hall as custodians, a total of forty-seven jobs. This work is not organized. Union labor has absolutely nothing to do with it. Yet the change was blocked and the explanation given is "union labor opposed the hiring of Negroes." Labor denies the charge. We hope it did not, but it might as well have opposed Negroes in this work which it does not control as to keep them from being carpenters, brick masons and craftsmen of the many trades it does control.

Here and now the world is in the throes of a great change. Already a labor set up in Germany bears the name of union, but which is absolute mastery over the worker as abject as ever a slave suffered. The attack of dictator statesmanship over there will be duplicated here. Labor's best defense, in fact its only defense, is fellowship, a living wage and fair working conditions for all. Otherwise at the first onslaught, the unions will find themselves hit in flank and rear by the multitude of workers outside their ranks.

Justice or any other principle grows stronger in the degree it is lived. What a tragedy it will be for unionism, an ideal that has done so much good, to fall. But fall it must unless it changes and stops trying to monopolize work by arbitrarily excluding workers whose only fault is that God saw fit to make them black!

LUCY PARSONS

ALBERT R. PARSONS

Lucy Parsons is the widow of Albert R. Parsons, one of the victims of the Haymarket frameup of 1886. Mrs. Parsons devoted her entire time and energy to proving the innocence of her husband and the other victims until Gov. Altgeld's pardon of the three of them remaining in prison in 1893 established the complete innocence of all ten—the seven who had been hanged and the three still alive.

Lucy Parsons has carried on the fight for organization of labor and workingmen's rights for which her husband was martyred. She has written numerous books, has spoken for many causes in all parts of the United States. Now, past 80, her spirit and her interest in the struggles of the working class are as strong as ever.

"Only my failing eyesight prevents me from being as active as I always was," she says.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN
Recently completed in ston
Jacob Lipkin, sculptor.

Labor's Hands Are Not Clean

In all seriousness, we urge an attack on the present labor law or its administration. Two weeks ago we charged that its effect is to drive Negroes out of employment, contrary both to man's natural right and the Constitution. If the law is alright, then its administration is at fault. The Negro loses his rights, even this one necessary to life itself, and nobody cares! The President, Congress, the President's labor board all wash their hands of us!

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The case needs only to be stated for the Negro's side of it to be understood. Out of the schools and otherwise Negroes learn trades. By printed rule and by custom, the majority of labor organizations refuse them membership. Under the old law, they could still compete for work. Under the new they cannot because the all-white labor setup has the government behind agreements it makes with employers.

"Collective" bargaining should not be perverted into "exclusive" bargaining. The President should require labor unions to admit members without discrimination on the ground that only by so doing are they in line with the Constitution. Jobs for whites and only relief for Negroes violates the accepted rule in America that he who asks justice must come into court with clean hands.

The Call

Get it clearly in your mind, Negroes! THE GOVERNMENT THAT HAS IN ITS CONSTITUTION THAT A MAN'S PROPERTY SHALL NOT BE TAKEN BY ANYBODY AND THAT IT SHALL NOT BE TAKEN BECAUSE OF HIS RACE AND COLOR, IS LETTING ORGANIZATIONS ROB HIM OF HIS LABOR AND LIVING. THE EVIDENCE THAT IT IS DONE IS YOUR EVERY DAY EXPERIENCE AND THAT IT IS DONE BECAUSE OF RACE IS WRITTEN IN THEIR UNION CONSTITUTIONS!

Kansas City

Let others talk about Hitler and foreign affairs! Let taxes worry the rich! We must have work! None of us is fool enough, to believe we will go on being fed if we do not work!

Kansas City offers the classic example of this organized opposition to Negroes working. In this city Negro carpenters, masons and other builders (except hod carriers) are not admitted to unions. By dint of enterprise, some Negroes found a construction job for themselves. To the scene of their operation came a union picket, displaying the warning that the labor on this job was "scab."

The exact reverse was true! The Negroes were the "poor working man." The oppressors were the prejudiced unions which would not let them in and would not let them alone.

That a few Negroes do find work with the bars up is of little help. Work for all is a God-given right, protected by the Constitution's own prohibition against federal or state interference or denial because of race and color. That right is ours by law, but we must establish it in fact.

One step is obvious—the courts. But lawing costs money. In a court action we would have to fight the government and the unions, not an even match by any means. The other step is easier and quicker—the election of men who honestly believe in democratic rule to the point that they will see to it that every citizen enjoys equally whatever benefits the law bestows. We do not care what your politics is. If you are a Negro concerned about your people and interested in your own welfare have you taken thought about what the candidate of your choice thinks about a Negro's right to work?

SUPREME COURT STRIKES AT NEGRO RAIL LABOR

WASHINGTON—(ANP)—President Roosevelt's "streamlined" supreme court struck a vital blow against Negro labor here Monday when it ruled that labor unions had a right to the limitations of the rights of Negro members.

The ruling was made in an employes' representation dispute between the American Federation of Labor's Brotherhood of Railway Carmen and the Independent National Federation of Railway Workers.

In June, 1937, a contest developed between the two unions when each sought to represent coach cleaners for the purpose of collective bargaining. The brotherhood was certified as the bargaining agent after an election was held by the National Mediation Board.

In challenging the board's ruling the National Federation of Railway Workers cited the fifth and 14th Amendments of the constitution.

In its ruling, the court held that since the fifth amendment relates solely to state action, and the 14th to federal action, the brotherhood could limit the rights of new members wihout offending their guarantees under the constitution.

Atro Visits Orange, Tex Home of Martin Dies

Writer Discovers Many Un-American Activities Right in Congressman's Own Hometown

By RALPH MATTHEWS

ORANGE, Texas — If you are traveling on one of the crack trans-continental trains of the Southern Pacific Railway along the Sunset Route to Los Angeles, you can, by notifying the conductor in time, have the train stopped at Orange, otherwise the flyer would speed past so fast that you would not see anything but a station platform.

But out of this almost insignificant little spot in the great Lone Star State has come a man who, in the past year, has made America Orange-conscious. That man is Martin Dies, chairman of the special House Committee on un-American activities.

Probe Scores Capitalists

Because of his investigation during the past seventeen months, which has created more headlines than both of Europe's wars and frightened complacent capitalists out of their wits by exposing a Bolshevist and anarchist under every bed, Orange has indirectly become the cradle of Americanism, having nurtured the No. 1 defender of the Ship of State.

It was to take a gander at this last citadel that prompted me to drop off to have a look-see to ascertain what type of community gave the nation this champion of liberty and defender of the faith.

I wanted to know what sort of job Martin Dies had done in creating an Utopia in his small experimental laboratory at home before setting out to save the nation.

Typical Southern Town

Orange is a typical small Southern town with its main street lined with the palatial residences typifying what my guide described proudly as "Millionaire Row" on the one side and an expansive area of one-story unpainted frame houses on the other constituting the colored section.

The latter is blessed with neither sidewalks nor paved streets and in weeping weather becomes a section of mud and slush, very similar to Norfolk, Va., on a smaller scale.

It apparently never occurred to the 100-per cent American city fathers that colored taxpayers should share the concrete and asphalt.

One Chance to Vote

On one occasion the politicos, during an especially hot election, decided that they would let down the bars and allow the darker constituents to vote. There was hot campaigning on both sides and a polling place was set up in the Robert Moton High School.

Civic pride fired high. The spirit of the night riders vanished into the night. Orange was a true democracy at last, but during the night the warring factions got together and decided that no election was so important, no issues so vital, no victory so sweet that it should be purchased at the cost of permitting colored people to vote.

Told to Stay Home

So the city truck came up and carted the polling booth and the ballot boxes back to the city hall and colored folks were told to stay home. They did.

But participation in municipal affairs is permitted sub-rosa in a fashion all their own that Texas cities have developed.

Have Bronze Mayor

While the colored folks have nothing to do with the regular city elections, therefore, get no jobs, no patronage, no say in civic affairs, they do have a liaison officer — a sort of go-between known as the Bronze Mayor, who is a representative of the Civic Betterment League, an all-colored organization of business, professional and trades people.

After the campaign is over, the colored folks determine who among them has the best drag with the successful incumbent and select him Bronze Mayor.

When the colored folks want something done, the Bronze Mayor, with his committee, waits on the Mayor and comes back with the bacon.

White Elections First

One can readily see how important it is that the Bronze Mayor be not elected until after the white Mayor is snug in office, because it would be fatal to send up "Mistur Charlie's n——r" to try to get somethin' out of "Mistur George," and that's the way Americanism works in the home of Martin Dies.

Orange also has a strange approach to the question of relief. colored folks, although the lowest on the economic scale, are the first to be dropped from the relief rolls, and colored projects are the first curtailed when funds run low. This is not surprising in the South, but the reason advanced by the local administration is most enlightening. It goes like this:

Why Relief Cut

"When we are forced to cut relief, we drop colored men first because they can hustle more than whites. A colored man will go out in the woods and scare up a rabbit or a possum and get hold of a chicken or two in devious ways, but a white man can't do these things because of his pride.

"A colored man or woman can also beg from white folks a little better off than himself without losing caste and even middle class whites don't mind helping a poor colored family where they would not help a poor white family."

Southern Psychology

This is the deep-rooted psychology of the South. Helping old Uncle Ned and Aunt Dinah is not only an accepted responsibility, but it soothes the Nordic ego.

Of course, the Southern white man has little sympathy for the educated, "uppity" colored man who doesn't know his place and makes short shift of him when he comes up both raggity and bigity demanding his rights.

* * *

But let us look at Martin Dies himself. He came to Washington as Representative in 1931 and is now in his fifth term. For the greater part of that time, he was nothing more than just another Dixie lawmaker.

Follows Garner

Taking a cue from the career of Vice President Garner, he landed a berth on the powerful House Rules Committee, a post that causes other legislators to court one's favor because it is strategic in blocking or passing bills in which Congressmen are interested.

Dies started his climb to prominence on the same type of ladder which had carried Cole Blease, Bilbo, Huey Long, and many others up — a form of demagoguery aimed at prejudices.

Hits at Aliens

For Dies one must say that his blows were not struck at colored, but at aliens, which was hate-creating never the less. He introduced bills proposing the deportation of aliens to solve the unemployment problem.

Once all the aliens had been deported, it would have been a short step to deport all the colored folks, but Bilbo got the jump on him in this.

After proposing many fanciful investigations, all of which carried with them large appropriations, Dies finally succeeded in getting an OK on the un-American activity probe.

What's Un-American?

The history of his work along this line is general knowledge. Everything, according to the Dies committee disclosures, was un-American which did not jibe with the capitalistic system of exploitation of the lower brackets and sought to distrub the status quo.

The Communist party with

Earl Browder, the German American Bund with Fritz Kuhn were his biggest catches and subsequent events in Europe won him the nation's applause for exposing their activities.

Attackes Liberals

But so hungry was Dies for more scalps that he was not satisfied with avowed agents of foreign powers, but began smearing every liberal organization and every free-thinking individual with the tar brush of treason.

Dies became American demagogue No. 1 when he allowed his committee to become the tool of reactionary and vested interests and permitted his hearings to become a sounding-off place for partisan politics in an effort to discredit every liberal in the public eye.

Mrs. Roosevelt Included

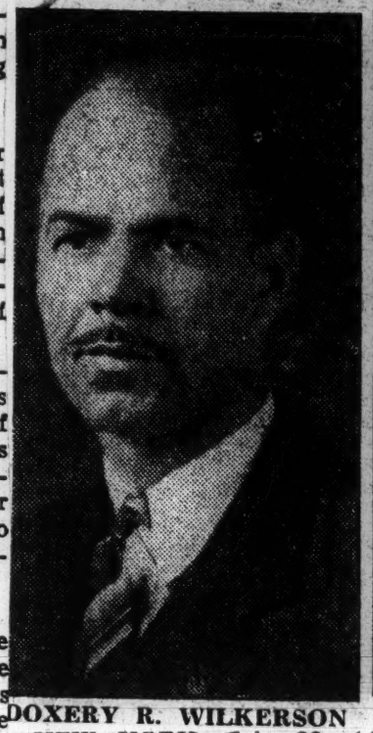
Among those attacked were Mrs. Roosevelt, Ickes, Justice Frank Murphy when he was running for re-election for the governorship of Michigan, and many others including our own Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune and members of the Howard University faculty.

Mr. Dies has remained hands off of the Ku Klux Klan, Father Coughlin, vicious anti-Negro labor unions, the Daughters of the American Revolution, big utilities and munition makers which endanger the lives and liberties of the American masses.

Dies Report Un-American

So violent and un-American was the report of Dies himself attacking all of the reforms and social legislation created by the New Deal that his colleagues had the report suppressed and turned into Congress a saner more modern approach to present-day affairs, and even this sought to turn back the clock against the people in favor of the few. Mr. Dies marches on.

CITE EVIL IN LILY WHITE UNIONS



DOXERY R. WILKERSON

A. PHILLIP RANDOLPH

LESTER B. GRANGER

NEW YORK, Feb. 29—(ANP) Cheered by hundreds who listened to him tell of the evils imposed upon both white and black workers by "lily-white" union constitutions, Manning Johnson, militant young Harlem labor leader, business agent cafeteria union, this week, in a panel discussion on "Labor and Democracy", declared that "laws should not be made to oppress any race or group . . . by any organization."

Speaking before one of five groups at the Greater N. Y. Emergency conference on Inalienable Rights, held at the Society for Ethical Culture, downtown New York, Mr. Johnson was one of four principal Negro speakers.

Johnson cited clauses contained in many railway unions, giving membership to "white persons" only. He said there were 22 such unions. "Labor should not always be blamed," he said, "the boss is also responsible . . . for many times if the Negro was hired, the unions would be compelled to take him into membership. . . . Capital seems to be intent upon making the Negro, Jews and foreign-born, the scapegoats in all labor difficulties."

Hold Panel Discussion

In the panel discussion on Religion and Democracy, one colored woman told of the white Episcopal church refusing to enroll a colored girl in its Sunday school classes. When Bishop Manning was appealed to, she said the bishop told her that the white pupils disliked to mingle with colored pupils. When the colored woman told him that this was an opportunity for teachers in Sunday school to teach their white pupils tolerance and non-prejudice, she claimed the worthy bishop had no answer. The colored child was not enrolled.

Lester Granger, committee on Negro Welfare Council of New York, and Rev. Lorenzo H. King, pastor, St. Marks Methodist church, were the other Negro speakers. The purpose of the panel discussions was to determine the best and most fruitful means of coping with the dangers threatening civil rights and security of citizens in neighborhoods and legislative bodies.

Panel Discussion Sponsors

Included among sponsors were at least six Negroes: Rev. A. Clayton Powell, Rev. F. A. Cullan, T. Arnold Hill, Rev. William Lloyd Imes, William Pickens, A. Philip Randolph and Doxery R. Wilkerson, of Howard U.

Dr. Frank Kingdon, president of Newark university, headed a long list of distinguished white sponsors, which included: Roger N. Baldwin, American Civil Liberties union; Dr. Mary E. Woolley, Mt. Holyoke college; M. Garriga, vice-president Hotel Rest. Unions; Dr. Emanuel Chapman, Fordham university; Merle Vincent, Wages and Hours Administration; and Dean N. H. Dearvorn. N. Y. U.

THE REDCAPS

Defender 8-17-40 Chicago, Ill.

"Redcap." How many times have you heard that call! How many times have you yourself made it as the train pulled into your destination! The answer was always prompt, always courteous and yet the redcap was dependent upon your generosity.

Today one of the largest recovery suits under the Wages and Hours law is being waged in court by the redcaps. They are fighting for more than five million dollars due them under this law. The Wages and Hours law gave the redcap the status of an employee and gave him self-respect. The continuance of that law means something to him, but the railroad companies are trying to evade payment under the terms of this law. The companies are seeking to pit Negro and white redcaps against each other. The companies are trying to destroy the redcaps' organization. These big corporations which restrict Negroes to certain jobs are seeking to prevent the redcaps from escaping from their old hat-in-hand status.

The fight now being waged by the redcaps is the fight of labor as a whole to secure a living wage. This fight is a part of the whole complex of struggle we, as a people, are forced to wage for democracy and job security. Remember this when you talk to the next redcap who helps you with your baggage—ask him what you can do to help his fight to end victoriously.

Bristol Va. News-Bulletin
March 4, 1940

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After hearing Paul Hartman of New Orleans, vice president of the International Longshoremen's Union insist the negroes were not asking social but only "economic equality," the conference referred the memorandum to the international unions involved.

Conference spokesmen said only about four were involved since the AFL itself recognized no discrimination. The unions were not named.

The memorandum protested that some unions refused to issue chapters to negro groups or to admit negroes to full participation and that negroes were barred from employment "on many union contracts."

"It should be emphasized," the petition continued, "that these discriminatory practices do not characterize all officials of the A. F. of L. However, their existence in a number of the internationals results in a very real economic handicap to negro workers. Further they make even harder the task of bringing the unorganized negro workers into the A. F. of L.

Signing the memorandum with Hartman were Roy Batey of Nashville, Tenn., laborers and hod carriers union; R. F. Finkley of Mobile, lonkshoremen's union and Doxey A. Wilkerson, of Washington, the American federation of teachers.

They said they spoke for some 200 negro delegates to the conference and for "more than 200,000 negro workers organized under the banner of the A. F. of L."

Atlanta Ga. Constitution
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"They may lose a skirmish here and there, perhaps a battle, and maybe even a campaign," he said. "But they will win the war for economic justice and the south, which in the past has lagged in the matter of trade union organization, will not only catch up with the north and the west, but in days to come will lead the procession."

Labor in Politics.

Advocating that labor exercise its political liberty, Keating pointed out that railroad labor has been amazingly successful in persuading the voters to elect the candidates it has indorsed.

During the last 10 years, he said, railroad labor has indorsed 123 candidates for the United States senate, 105 of whom were elected.

"Repeatedly its candidates have won when practically every other candidate on that ticket has been defeated," he asserted.

The editor added that "we cannot hope to preserve religious and political liberty unless we achieve economic liberty."

The first step, he said, in gaining economic freedom is to join a union or craft. Southern labor, he continued, "has a hard row to be hoed, but it will be hoed."

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Machinery Warning.

He pointed to the fact that there are men who ridicule labor, but added that "the more we challenge some of these things, the less condemnation we will have."

Luhrsen also discussed how machinery has displaced manpower, and warned that "we must put some guard against the constant introduction of machinery which does not provide for the man it displaces."

I. M. Ornburn, secretary-treasurer of the union label trades department of the American Federation of Labor, stressed the importance of buying union label merchandise and implored the delegates to impress this fact on the residents of their communities.

Speaking of the unemployment problem, he said:

"No foreign country is going to help us solve our unemployment problem. It is to be solved by organizations of wage-earners, their families and their friends."

Among the other speakers at the afternoon session were Cornelius Maiden, Negro organizer for the American Federation of Labor, and Samuel Latimer, president of the International Ladies' Handbag, Pocketbook and Novelty Workers' Union, and Edward McMorrow, executive vice president of the Amalgamated Association of Street and Electrical Railway and Motor Coach Employes of America.

Latimer made a plea for the luggage workers of Petersburg, Va., and as a result of his address Sallie D. Clinebell, national representative of the United Garment Workers of America, made a motion that a collection be taken for the benefit of the Virginia workers.

The motion carried with an amendment that it be referred to the resolutions committee for consideration.

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U. S. NEGROES URGED TO JOIN LEWIS IN PUSH

Group Asked To Make 'Common Cause' With Labor's Non-Partisan League

THIRD PARTY THREAT SEEN

WASHINGTON, (AP) — John L. Lewis urged the Negroes of America Friday to make "common cause" with his democratic political action to improve the economic status of the nation's masses.

His appeal, delivered at the third National Negro Congress, was linked immediately with his previous announced intention to weld labor, "liberal" farm organizations, youth and old age groups, the Negroes and others into a powerful 1940 political unit, if the Democratic nominee and platform should prove unsatisfactory.

Taken in conjunction with his sharp break with President Roosevelt, his program was broadly interpreted as a scarcely veiled threat to enter the 1940 campaigns with a third party unless his demands are met.

Since then he has addressed the American Youth Congress and a working agreement, the details of which were not made public, between that organization and Labor's Non-Partisan League, political affiliate of the CIO, was effected. Further, he has an engagement to address the Townsend plan convention at St. Louis on a date between the two national conventions.

Part of Plans

So, his speech of last night was naturally construed as a part of his general campaign plan. It took one slap at the administration—charging it had abandoned the 1936 platform pledge on unemployment and relief—emphasized a vigorous keep-out-of-the-war plea, called for adequate housing and health programs and proposed old age security payments of at least $60 monthly to individuals and $90 to married couples.

"It is not a program to drain the wealth and sap the resources of our country," he said. "It is a program designed to create new wealth and to conserve our investment, emphasizing the great assets of our human riches and designed at the same time to command full use of our productive machinery.

"It is on the basis of such principles that we of labor call upon other groups of American citizens interested in the common welfare to join in demanding that the political leaders of the nation stand by and deliver or give way to those who can. . . .

Join in Cause

"I therefore call upon you and the millions whom you represent to join in common cause with labor that we may seek out as American citizens those political means and instruments by which the common welfare may be promoted.

"In this same hall in February I extended an invitation to the American Youth Congress and the millions of young people affiliated with it to make common cause with Labor's Non-Partisan League for the promotion of a just and sensible program for public welfare. To the National Negro Congress and to your affiliates I would extend that same invitation to affiliate with or to reach a working agreement with Labor's Non-Partisan League that our common progress may better be attained.' Lewis' speech dwelt at length upon the question of full civil rights for Negroes, which he said were "not yet a fact in our nation."

No Reply Received

"I have publicly urged the president and the attorney general," he said, "to instruct the civil liberties bureau to bring into the federal courts of this country a judicial proceeding to attack and strike down the cowardly restraints inflicted upon the citizens of the Southern states by poll tax laws. There has been no reply. Nothing has been done.

"The department of justice has called upon the congress for vastly increased appropriations and they are being granted to them in a day when the unemployment cry out in their need for more help. Yet the department of justice has done nothing.

"Let there be no mistake about it, labor will not rest until the right to vote becomes the right of every citizen, unhampered by such devices as the poll tax.

"Last week the chief of our national police force frightened a hall-full of elderly ladies with immoderate and fantastic stories of plots against our country by foreign powers. (The reference obviously was to an address by J. Edgar Hoover, chief of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, before the Daughters of the American Revolution.)

Turn His Face

"Let him turn his face to cabins where American people are being lashed by white-robed riders. Let him look to cities where American workers who seek their rights to the plots of foreign powers if our people have faith in their government.

"Labor long ago learned, and you have learned, that the rights and privileges vested in the common citizens by the Constitution of this country can be theirs only if they are willing to fight for them. These rights do not fall like gentle rain from heaven. It takes eternal courage and unceasing effort to preserve them."

LABOR- 1940
UNIONS, STRIKES, ETC.

GENERAL

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Since then he has addressed the American Youth Congress and a working agreement, the details of which were not made public, between that organization and Labor's Non-Partisan League, political affiliate of the CIO, was effected. Further, he has an engagement to address the Townsend plan convention at St. Louis on a date between the two national conventions.

Part of Plans

So, his speech of last night was naturally construed as a part of his general campaign plan. It took one slap at the administration—charging it had abandoned the 1936 platform pledge on unemployment and relief—emphasized a vigorous keep-out-of-the-war plea, called for adequate housing and health programs and proposed old age security payments of at least $60 monthly to individuals and $90 to married couples.

"It is not a program to drain the wealth and sap the resources of our country," he said. "It is a program designed to create new wealth and to conserve our investment, emphasizing the great assets of our human riches and designed at the same time to command full use of our productive machinery.

"It is on the basis of such principles that we of labor call upon other groups of American citizens interested in the common welfare to join in demanding that the political leaders of the nation stand by and deliver or give way to those who can. . . .

Join in Cause

"I therefore call upon you and the millions whom you represent to join in common cause with labor that we may seek out as American citizens those political means and instruments by which the common welfare may be promoted.

"In this same hall in February I extended an invitation to the American Youth Congress and the millions of young people affiliated with it to make common cause with Labor's Non-Partisan League for the promotion of a just and sensible program for public welfare. To the National Negro Congress and to your affiliates I would extend that same invitation to affiliate with or to reach a working agreement with Labor's Non-Partisan League that our common sense and high office to enact federal anti-lynching legislation, so long delayed by the cowardly tactics of those who knife behind the scenes. We will not need to fear him look to cities where American civileges vested in the Constitution of these United States by the courage and unceasing effort to preserve them."

"Let him turn his face to cabins where American people are being lashed by white-robed riders. Let those who are responsible for this country root out these evils. So let them use their influence to prevent lynching, which has been a blot on the escutcheon of the American Revolution.)

Turn His Face

"Let him turn his face to cabins where American people are being lashed by white-robed riders. Let him look to cities where American civileges vested in the Constitution of these United States by the courage and unceasing effort to preserve them."

"Let those who are responsible for this country root out these evils. So let them use their influence and high office to enact federal anti-lynching legislation, so long delayed by the cowardly tactics of those who knife behind the scenes. We will not need to fear him from heaven. It takes eternal vestigation, before the Daughters of the American Revolution.)

chief of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, [illegible] an address by J. Edgar Hoover, thrust aside the fundamental principles. (The reference obviously was to trails of lynching parties, which against our country by foreign powers. "Labor long ago learned, that the rights ate and fantastic stories of plots organize are cruelly maimed and run or elderly ladies with immoderworkers who seek their rights to

John L. Lewis Waves Negroes Under CIO Flag

Labor Leader Jockeys To Better Position For 1940 Campaign

WASHINGTON—(AP)—With an appeal to the organized Negroes of the nation to come in under his political banner, John L. Lewis took another step Saturday toward what he obviously hopes will be an influential position in the presidential campaign.

In the same hall where he beckoned the American Youth Congress to his support last February, the CIO leader Friday night invited the National Negro Congress to consider a working agreement or affiliation with labor's Non-Partisan League, the political organization which he heads.

Lewis demanded "that the political leaders of the nation stand by and deliver or give way to those who can."

He charged the Democratic administration had failed to fulfill its 1936 platform pledge to provide jobs for the unemployed.

Cheering broke out among the delegates and visitors in the auditorium—estimated to number 3,000—when he said:

"I want the help of the Negroes of the country. I want their help and their cooperation with the labor movement of America."

John P. Davis, secretary of the congress which heard Lewis, estimated that it represented 3,000,000 Negroes, or one-fifth of the Negro population.

From its president, A. Philip Randolph, the congress heard that the Communist party was not concerned with labor and the Negro, that the Republican party was "no longer a progressive force," and that the Democratic party was "no better."

Lewis' speech shared attention with a story in The Washington Post saying Secretary Ickes had written Amon G. Carter, publisher of the Fort Worth, Tex., Star-Telegram and a Garner-for-president supporter:

"The movement, in which you are such a shining light, is not for the nomination of any particular man. It is to defeat Roosevelt."

The paper said that Ickes, ardent advocate of a third term for the president, had written Carter and sent copies of his letter to the Texas congressional delegation after the publisher had criticized him editorially. Carter, The Post said, had accused Ickes of "carpet-bagging" tactics in connection with his recent visit to Texas.

Still another development was a statement by Senator Wheeler, a Democratic presidential aspirant in case President Roosevelt does not run, that he was opposed to the United States getting into the European war "now, after the election, or any other time."

Wheeler told reporters also that he would not accept a vice presidential nomination on a ticket with anybody, including Mr. Roosevelt. There had been some talk of a Roosevelt-Wheeler ticket.

"I would rather be a senator from Montana than vice president," he said, adding with a smile:

"I'm not old enough to be vice president. A vice president ought to be at least 60."

Wheeler was 58 last February.

LABOR WARNS AGAINST ANTI-LYNCH BILL FOES

Courier Pittsburgh Pa.

DETROIT, Oct. 17—Michigan Negroes this week were warned by Labor's Non-Partisan League to pay strict attention to the stand of the candidates for Congress and the U. S. Senate on the anti-lynching bill.

OCT 19 1940

Labor's Non-Partisan League revealed the fact that according to the Congressional Record, Senator Arthur Vandenberg, candidate for reelection, was one of the leading fighters against limiting debate on the anti-lynching bill and played a great part in preventing this measure from becoming a law.

During January and February, 1938, on two separate occasions, Senator Vandenberg voted with those who favor lynchings, helping reactionary Southern Senators stymie attempts to make lynchings illegal in the United States.

Thousands Stalk Picket Lines in Plant Walkouts Through the Nation; Houston Hit With Strike in Dairies

Negro Labor News Houston Texas

DOWNTOWN STREETS DOTTED WITH PICKETS OUT ON STRIKE AS HUNDREDS GO JOBLESS; SAWMILLS THROUGHOUT THE NATION FACE LABOR CRISIS AS WALKOUTS GET UNDER WAY; CONGRESS STUDIES LEGISLATION TO STOP STRIKE WAVE

DEC 7 1940

Strike! Strike! Strike!

Throughout the nation industrial plants large and small are threatened with one of the worst strike epidemics in the history of our nation. Industrial plants, sawmills, dairies, coal mines and all other branches of industry are not being missed in this strike wave which is sweeping the country.

Houston last week was only mildly shocked with the strike instituted by the local Milk Drivers and Helpers Union against the members of the Houston Dairy Council which includes six of the largest dairies in the city. But, this week when the strike continued with the addition of the inside employes at all but one of these dairies being called out, citizens viewed with alarm the strike and the detrimental possibilities that it brings. Over 700 employes of these dairies are affected by the strike.

To date arbitration between the union and the council has only added to the fire and intensity of the situation. The laborers and the managers of the plants affected still remain in a deadlock.

In the milk strike one dairy has been allowed to maintain its inside force to provide milk for the hospitals and schools. Picket lines have been thrown around the other plants and no milk is being delivered from these industries.

When the strike was first called last Saturday, the Negro population of the city did not view with alarm the situation because only two or three Negroes were directly affected since they were limited to membership in the teamsters union which called the strike. However, when the walkout of the inside help took place several Negroes were involved. Although the Negroes working at these plants have not been inclined to go on strike considerable pressure through threats and attempted physical harm have made them the victims of an atrocious situation .

Up and down the downtown district of the city one can find pickets walking in front of stores displaying banners which tell the story of the strikers.

Houston's milk strike is likened to the broad tieup of sawmills on the northwest coast by the A. F. of L. and C. I. O. which already to date has over 4,000 workers idle and which threatens to tieup sawmill industries, aviation plants and other industries throughout the nation.

So great are the threatened labor tieups that Tuesday, the house judiciary committee of the United States House of Representatives took action on the matter.

Information revealed from reliable sources has it that the committee is secretly starting machinery designed to impose legal curbs on labor's right to strike in the national defense industries.

Chairman Hatton W. Summers (D., Texas) has appointed a sub-committee to work out the details by which striking in the defense industries can be curbed. The walkouts and strikes now taking place throughout the country are feared will spread to the defense industries largely because it is believed that trade unions will demand nigher wages to meet the rising cost of living under the rearmament boom.

If such action is taken by congress it is certain to lead to a joint A.F. of L. and C.I.O. opposition and a bitter battle is sure to the outcome. The A.F. of L. at its New Orleans Convention last week hinted towards this result when the delegates approved demands that the government approve higher pay for skilled workers in the navy yards.

Labor - 1940
Strikes, Unions, Etc.

General

100 Percent Union

By LOUIS BUDENZ

INDEPENDENCE DAY, as it rolls around, keeps reminding us that "independence" is still largely an unknown quantity to the Negro people.

Even in certain trade unions—and, it may be said, in too many of them—the Negro is still not admitted to membership or does not receive equal treatment with the white members.

What sort of "American condition" is this, anyway? Do not the unions who bar Negroes from membership recognize the danger that they are creating for the whole trade union movement? If they will not realize the injustice of their discriminatory practices, they should be able to heed their own self-interests as unionists.

There may be many mouthy orations uttered today about "freedom," "equality" and "American democracy." They will flow as freely from the politicos as gold flows into the coffers of the House of Morgan. They will be as wordy and as worthless as the Republican platform on this subject.

The trade unionists' interests are bound up in making these words live in America. In their own battle against "anti-trust" persecution and against the breaking down of wages and hours under the "happy days" of "the Happy Warrior," they sorely need the help of the Negro people.

At the same time, the Wall Streeters have not been slow to seize upon this Achilles' heel of certain unions to weaken the whole union movement. In 1938 a proposed law to deprive all labor unions which discriminated against Negroes of the benefits of the State Labor Relations Act was introduced in Albany.

NEGROES' SPLENDID STAND

The outrageous character of the discrimination practiced by certain reactionary union leaders, with the connivance of the Green clique in the AFL executive council, gave the alibi for such legislation.

And yet, with a remarkable understanding, Negro unionists and Negro civic organizations joined with progressive labor to oppose the passage of this measure. They appreciated that governmental regulation of the unions, under this guise, was a dagger stab at all trade unionism.

Through such a splendid stand, the Negro people aided labor in preventing such a straight-jacketing of its organizations. The bill was killed—although in the 1940 session of the New York legislature a law was placed on the statute books making it an offense for officials of unions to discriminate.

Those unions which still practice discrimination can come around to some sense of responsibility to the labor movement and to the whole working class. The hour is more than ripe for them to do so.

Their present color bars are a disservice to the Negroes and to the wider working class. They also are a distinct disservice to the union movement itself—in opening the door for regulation and other difficulties.

WILL MACHINISTS ACT?

Such considerations come sharply to mind with the announcement that the International Association of Machinists is to hold its 1940 convention in Cleveland in September. This large AFL organization—so closely interlinked with the railroad unions—has not played fair with the Negro workers.

Were the Machinists Union to take a forthright stand against discrimination, it would help itself and at the same time help the railroad unions as a whole. Those unions cannot point with pride to their record on this matter.

To read some of the constitutions of the railroad organizations, one would think we were living in the Deep South of pre-civil war days. The 13th, 14th and 15th Amendments can be annexed to these union constitutions—as well as made to live in the United States Constitution.

In contrast to this ill-usage of Negroes in the railroad industry, we can present a somewhat happier picture of the Negro seamen. The coming of the National Maritime Union of the CIO into the shipping industry has made a considerable difference for the Negroes who go down to the sea in ships.

There is a striking editorial in the latest issue of "The Pilot," organ of that union, which brings this to the fore.

IN THE MERCHANT MARINE

"Though our Negro members certainly have cause for complaint," states this editorial, "in the fact that the steamship companies do not accord them full equality as is provided under the Constitution of the United States, their position has markedly improved under the NMU."

In the five-year period after 1930, the paper emphasizes, the percentage of Negro seamen employed in the industry had fallen to 6.2 per cent. "With the coming of the Rank and File movement and the NMU," we are told, "this percentage was rapidly brought up to 10.4 per cent, which is the highest at any given time in the history of the American merchant marine."

"Thus," it is added, with pride, "we find that within a few short years the NMU has done more for the Negro seamen than all other unions did in 25 years."

In the NMU "an injury to one is an injury to all"—and the union has signalized this slogan by naming a Negro to the position of National Secretary-Treasurer of the organization.

Measured by the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution, the NMU thus takes its place as a truly American organization.

AS I SEE IT

Negro Labor News
8-10-40

By C. W. RICE

THE PLIGHT OF MILL WORKERS AT CROSSETT, ARK. SHOULD BE A LESSON TO NEGRO WORKERS WHO JOIN MIXED UNIONS; NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS ACT INADEQUATE TO PROMOTE INDUSTRIAL PEACE

Houston, Texas

The starvation and violence caused by a labor strike at Crossett, Ark., should be a lesson to Negro workers who believe that joining mixed unions is the only salvation for them to hold their jobs and get better working and wage conditions in the South. It clearly demonstrates that the Wagner Labor Act is failing to promote industrial peace between employers and employees.

Crossett is a small industrial town about fifty miles from El Dorado. It has a total population of about 7,000 which is about equally divided between the Negroes and whites. These citizens depended for a livelihood from employment furnished by three industrial plants; a lumber and paper mill and a chemical plant. These industries employ a total of about 2,500 workers at a minimum.

Crossett had won a reputation from travelers as being a model industrial city. It demonstrated how two races worked side by side and got along peacefully. It had customary Negro and white quarters. In many instances Negro and white workers drew equal pay for equal work. They had their churches and their schools as well as their social recreations.

About two years ago, labor organizers representing International Brotherhood of Paper Makers and the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners began to urge workers to join their unions. Group meetings were held secretly at first.

The old fear of losing their jobs vanished when the organizers made them know that it was against the law for an employer to fire any worker for union activities. If such an attempt was made, workers would be reinstated, with back pay and the company officials libeled to a fine of $10,000 plus prison sentence. So finally the Negro workers who held the majority of votes were assured if they would join the union that it would mean a new day for Negroes with better wages and shorters hours.

As I understand, the Negroes voted for the union largely due to coercion. The company recognized the union but refused to sign a closed-shop contract which prevented the company from employing anybody without the permission of the union. After several meetings, negotiations on this point broke down and a strike was called about the first of June at the Lumber and Chemical Mill and a picket line thrown around the Paper Mill, 2,500 persons were out of work.

For the first two weeks, strikers went along with a pretty high spirit as the union treasurer was issuing $2.00 per week per member, both black and white. Suddenly the Negro members were cut off and hunger and starvation began to stalk around Crossett. According to eye witness. men with families were seen walking the street crying and begging for food. Ministers, both white and colored began to make humanitarian pleas to bring strikes to a close.

A twenty-eight-year-old white pastor defied the union, called a mass meeting, where more than 1,500 citizens stood in a downpour of rain listening to him plea for industrial peace. He told his audience that he believed the strike would go on forever unless someone took the lead to bring about peace. He did not think the company would ever sign the closed-shop agreement.

Relief came to the starving people of Crossett about July 17, when about four hundred workers, mostly Negroes quit the union, broke the picket line and went back to work. They volunteered and went to the office of the employer and asked permission to return to work, stating that they had been misled. I learned this week that the mills closed again after six days of operation. Reports come from Crossett that the Negro quarters are carefully guarded by peace officers and there is anticipation of serious trouble in that section. The Labor Board has been active in the situation at Crossett.

Paving Workers To Vote On C.I.O., A.F.L. Unions

SEP 21 1940

WASHINGTON.—Some 700 Negro workers in the paving industry, representing about 95 per cent of the total number of workers so engaged are expected to take part in the general election to be held within the next two weeks to determine whether the CIO or its rival organization, the A. F. of L. is to represent them as a bargaining agent.

Employed by some nine contractors, who have a loose association among themselves, the workers were denied the right to organize until the United Construction workers took the case before the department of labor, which ordered the contractors to permit the workers to hold an open election.

Declaring that the men are being exploited in the matter of wages, the UCW of the CIO says that although the wage rates are paid workers, they are paid on a 30-hour basis rather than 40 hours as the law provides.

AS I SEE IT—the situation at Crossett is one of the many examples of the charges that instead of the National Labor Relations Act promoting good will among employees, preventing strikes, lock-outs and guaranteeing a free flow of commerce as intended, it has destroyed friendly relations between employers and employees. It is estimated that 85,000,000 days of work have been lost on account of strikes and lock-outs during the administration of the law.

It is clearly seen that Negroes employed in Southern industries have practically no protection in most of the mixed unions. They can never as long as tradition and customs regarding the races remain. Negro leadership in every community and every state should face this situation with the determination to advise workers of the danger of becoming entangled with movements that might cost them their jobs.

In this era of National and International upheaval when nations and groups are seeking protection and securities, the Negro should give serious thought as to their every action.

NEGRO WORKERS SHOULD BEWARE OF DOUBLE-CROSSING RACKETEERING LABOR LEADERS

DEC 14 1940

The statement made this week by Captain J E. Murray of the strike squad of the police department in a hearing of testimonies in an anti-trust case brought against several labor union leaders that a high ranking official of a certain labor union tried to join the police force as an informant to give the dope on labor unions, is a clear demonstration of why most Negro workers are skeptical of joining mixed labor unions and reluctant in giving information about their empolyers. The union official when asked if he would resign his position with the union said he could best serve the police department by holding his job.

AS I SEE IT, it is unfair to the rank and file of the workers for their leader to even offer himself an informant or "stool pigeon" for the police department. It is a betrayal to the confidence of the membership of the union. Repeatedly in this column, I have warned Negro workers that certain stool pigeons were on the "inside" of labor unions and caused them to lose their jobs and be placed on the black list. Here is what oftentimes happens to the Negro workers:

A trusty Negro who has the confidence of his employer and other workers usually is the first of a group of race workers in a given plant induced to join a union. He is told whatever information given concerning the operation of the firm for which he works on the conduct of his employer will be treated with strict confidence and remain inside th union hall. With strong belief in his newly found friend (union) and his limited knowledge of "fraternalism", the Negro talks very freely and unconsciously makes statement that the "snooper" magnifies and carries back to the emplyer. The worker becomes a marked man and when difficulties arise between him and his employer, the union is supposed to take up the grievances. The case of the Negro is usually lost.

This is not always true in all unions, were Negroes have membership. But it occurs all too frequently for the best interests of Negro workers. We could recite many instances at Houston, one at a laundry, where one of the best paid Negro workers became interested in the union movement This worker was called upon to speak at a union meeting. Instead of speaking on benefits of the union she took up time to villify and criticize her employer—calling names at intervals that some of the white members obviously from expression did not approve. In the course of her talk, she said she was satisfied as an employe but her interest was for those less fortunate than she. Shortly after the meeting this woman lost her job and for some reason has been unable to find employment in her line of work at Houston though she held membership in the laundry workers union.

Another instance where Negro workers were doublecrossed is that of a Negro automobile mechanic who took the lead organizing his co-workers along with the whites. The text of his speech before the union body pointed out that he was getting along all right but he too wanted to help the less fortunate. He played up the unfair treatment of other automobile workers. He was cheered in his remarks but, when a strike was called by his union, and settled, he was let out. The company refused to consider his service further.

Last week, 30 militant dock workers who lost their jobs after they led a successful movement to have colored workers join a mixed union, employed an attorney to help them get their jobs back on the charges employers are still hiring who they please and the union had failed to give any protection for the dues they were paying. A representative of this group told me the men believed they had been doublecrossed by the union and the employers' mind had been poisoned against them.

Time nor space does not permit me to further discuss the doublecrossing of certain labor union representatives. As I See It, unless the rank and file of the membership of labor unions assert themselves and get rid of crooked leadership, the pendulum that has swung so far over a period of years in labor's favor, will swing to crash and the gain made by labor will be definitely lost.

According to the Gallup poll public entiment has now risen to about 65 er cent favoring stronger legislation to urb labor's power. Despite the mportant roll labor played in the ast presidential election and the pro-est from its leaders that no legislation be further enacted to interfere with labor's activities, a movement is well underway to have the next Congress enact laws to prohibit strikes and other disturbance in national defense projects.

DEC 14 1940

While Negroes should take advantage of collective bargaining as other workers at the same time they should not be tools or prey for union racketeers who obviously care nothing about the workers welfare and have as their main interest dues and more dues.

The Law Winks

Even though a member of the National Labor Relations Board tries to clear unions of complicity with Communism, we know better. The evidence that they are not democratic is written in the blood and tears of Negro America. True, the color line is not in the laws of the majority of unions, but it is practiced by them as relentlessly as if it were.

With this their record, unions call on the nation to give labor "its rights!" What brazen effrontery! Then to make bad matters worse, government officials to whom all labor should be equally a responsibility, take sides.

Democracy is outraged by this official support of a labor monopoly. When it was capital that took advantage, anti-trust laws were passed. But labor is votes! The labor relations board is part of an administration elected by votes! Principle takes an awful beating when an election is near at hand.

The hopelessness of bettering conditions with biased men thus entrusted with carrying out the law is apparent. No wonder employers complain that they are helpless victims of an unfair administration of the law.

Trust Attack on Labor Is Like Betrayal Of 14th Amendment for Negro People

By Ben Davis, Jr.

The trade unions are now getting the same double cross which the Negro people have been receiving for the last 60 odd years.

They are the victims of the anti-trust laws which were put on the books for the prosecution and curbing of the monopolies and trusts.

The situation of the unions is all the more precarious, due to the fact that the drive of the Roosevelt Administration takes place against labor as a part of the Administration's war-program.

In fact, Thurman Arnold's prosecution and unheard of conviction of the Fur Workers Union and its intrepid leader Ben Gold and others, the Department of Justice's medieval persecution of the teamsters and other unions—IS war.

The Negro people will see and will understand this dastardly thing happening to the unions.

Ever since the 14th Amendment was placed on the statutes, to guarantee the rights of the newly-freed Negroes, they have seen it converted into an instrumentality for ruthless license for the corporations and trusts. This is one of America's greatests betrayals.

That clause of Section 1, of the 14th Amendment which reads: "Nor shall any state deprive any person of life liberty of property, without due process of law, nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws", has been stretched completely over the heads of the underprivileged Negroes to serve Wall Street and the most predatory forces of capitalism.

A CLASSIC OF PERVERSION

That same clause has been used to give the vampire corporations—that is, artificial "persons"—the right to be free from taxation by states; the economic royalists sing its praises to protect their piles of excess profits; real estate owners have called upon its name to gather in the mountains of unearned increments which accrues on property, whose value is enhanced through the growth of communities; the Wesbrook Peglers of the past (and of the present) cite it grandiloquently to "prove" there should be no income tax on the rich; the trusts angelically swear by it to show that the whole civil war was fought in order that their artificial selves might be treated as flesh and blood citizens.

These are but a few of the ways in which this magna charta of the Negro people in America has been perverted to strengthen the very forces which are at the bottom of the whole superstructure of capitalist oppression.

For every Scottsboro case, in which the Negro and white masses compelled the Supreme Court to reclaim the 14th Amendment for its original purpose, one can show three cases in which the democratic language of amendment was sullied for the benefit of the enemies of the Negro, labor and the entire American people.

It is plain then that the Negro people, through their own experience, become one of the main allies of the unions in turning back this Roosevelt onslaught against the unions. The Negro workers, who have matured into a vital section of the labor movement, and the entire Negro people have a crucial stake in giving unstinted support to the CIO, the A. F. of L. and the Railroad Brotherhoods in crushing this war offensive against labor.

A FALSE BID

The Administration, however, is making a special demagogic bid to the Negro people for support to this anti-union drive, pretending it is to clean up racial discrimination in the labor movement. But clearly any captalist government which has perverted the 14th Amendment cannot be trusted, especialy since it is revealing its fangs against the most decisive sections of the Negro people, namely the organized Negro workers.

Besides the government's drive has hit the most determined fighters against discrimination in the labor movement, the CIO unions. It is the open-shoppers, the monopolies and utilities which are responsible for the racial discrimination in the labor movement. William Green Matthew Woll and the A. F. of L dynasty on top has cooperated with these reactionaries by carrying out their anti-Negro policies in the labor movement.

Wall Street and successive Republican and Democratic Administrations — through the Supreme court—having gotten away with perverting the 14th Amendment, feel that they can now turn the anti-trust laws bottom side upwards But the organized labor movement should take advantage of this situation to strengthen its own ranks, to move closer to unity and to broaden and cement its solidarity with the Negro people. Coming at this particular movement, the working agreement reached between the National Negro Congress and Labor's Non-Partisan League, is of historic importance.

The Non-Partisan League is to press immediately for the enactment of the federal anti-lynching bill, and accepting this long-awaited outstretched hand of labor the Negro Congress pledges to work for safe guarding the Wagner Act labor's magna charta. It is impossible to overestimate the far-reaching significance of this example set by the Non-Partisan League. It is an example which should be followed in state and local communities.

It is energetically taking up the rights of the Negroes, that labor will be striking decisive blows for the hard-won rights of the unions. Insistence on the passage of the federal anti-lynching bill and a sharp fight for the enforcement of the 13th, 14th and 15th amendments, becomes essential for labor's own salvation from the Roosevelt-Wall Street war program.

project Negro carpenters were admitted to Local No. 1534 of the United Brotherohod of Carpenters and Joiners of America for employment on the barracks construction there.

Constructon officials on the project have expressed willingness to employ Negroes in all categories, Dr. Weaver said, and the Virginia Employment Service offices are preparing to requisition a large number of the needed 5,000 workers there on a state-wide clearance. Skilled carpenters on the Camp Lee project receive $1 an hour and time-and-a-half for overtime.

Negro carpenters are now at work on similar contruction work at Camp Joseph T. Robinson in Arkansas, Dr. Weaver revealed, as the result of a protest filed with the Commission by Clifford E. Minton, executive secretary of the Urban League of Greater Little Rock.

Seeking Negro Help

The State Bureau for Work at Camp Eustis, Va., has sent out a special call asking Negro skilled and semi-skilled workers, particularly carpenters, painters and blicklayers, to register for immediate work.

Seventy-five Negro carpenters and laborers have been employed on the construction work at Camp Eustis during the past two weeks, it is reported, and a hundred additional men have been called for the work, which will last several months.

In reporting these developments, Dr. Weaver said:

"This increased employment of Negro skilled workers shows the effective operation of the agreement of the Congress of Industrial Organization and American Federation of Labor to accept responsibility for seeing that Negroes are not discriminated against in defense employment. It also shows that unfavorable employment patterns are breaking down in many occupations from which Negroes have heretofore been barred.

"These developments emphasize the necessity for Negroes to take full advantage of all available training courses for the defense program. Fortunately, a number of Negro carpenters are available in many parts of the country. Negro workers are not so fortunate in other categories. If we take full advantage of the vocational training courses which are open to Negroes, for the first time in many cases, we will be in a better position to take advantage of the many skilled jobs which will open as the program progresses."

Fitzgerald, Ga., Herald
October 11, 1940

Labor Unions And Politics

OCT 22 1940

LABOR UNIONS, to be effective in their bargaining, must have a strong political reach. Good bargaining involves high pressure lobbying and in that there is no separation of the labor union from political activity. The members are versed in the craft of heaping political vengeance upon the heads of those in political life who might be unfriendly to labor or fail to vote for legislation beneficial to labor. Therefore, the participation of the colored personnel in labor unions will bring along some form of political consciousness. The members in attending their locals are bound to hear discussions relative to men and measures and take note of the manner in which those more favored members are coached for elections. Those in charge of the locals will soon view the heavy colored membership as political power. Men never see or give away power. Votes are powerful mediums to redress men in search of redress and power are learning to accept whatever measures leading to their objective.

Daily World

The voting strength of the south could wield a heavy weapon for the development and enlightenment of our section once put into action. A casual survey through the south would bring astonishment from the way in which it neglects its voting strength. The country has never known fully the voting strength of the south because of the white heat of race prejudice that has counteracted in the efforts of those in former times who sought to poll the full strength of the south. This in a large measure accounts for the woeful neglect and step-child approach to the problems affecting the south and its vast resource. The south has been unable to harness her powerful possiblities because of the terrible handicap in reaching its voters. In fact the south has never realized the value of a vote. It has been content to go along in the old rut long discarded by progressive sections.

The labor unions are doing a great work in the line of educating our group to the importance of the ballot. The mixed unions realize the handicap over the head of the colored voter. Votes represent power and men seldom overlook power when the call goes out for effective duty.

Atlanta, Ga.

We are keenly grateful to an organization that even remotely approaches the scene of emancipating that horde of voters held in political slavery, to the extent of depopulating and devastating the most powerful section of the nation.

See Racial Employment Policies Changing By Non-Discrimination Policy Adopted By Labor Unions

New York Age
New York N.Y.
DEC 21 1940

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Indications that racial employment policies were being altered through the non-discrimination policy adopted by organized labor at the behest of the National Defense Advisory Commission, were seen this week in the employment of more than 40 Negro union carpenters on the barracks construction program at Camp Meade, Md.

The hiring of the 40 Negro carpenters, with openings for an estimated 60 more, was announced by Dr. Robert C. Weaver, Administrative Assistant in the Division of Labor Supply, which is headed by Labor Commissioner Sidney Hillman.

Dr. Weaver's announcement followed a conference with Edward S. Lewis, executive secretary of the Baltimore Urban League and Business Manager of Local No. 544, United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, A. F. of L.

Mr. Lewis, who had originally protested to Commissioner Hillman and Dr. Weaver on alleged bans against Negroes on the camp construction work, reported that the 40 Negro skilled workers are receiving $1.25 an hour on the job, with $2.50 an hour for overtime. As a result of the invoking of the A. F. of L.-C. I. O. noo-discrimination agreement, he said, the cnostruction officials have promised employment of an estimated 60 more Negro carpenters at Camp Meade.

Dr. Weaver also reported further progress in the integration of Negro skilled workers in the defense program at three other camps—Camp Lee, Va., Camp Joseph T. Robinson, Ark., and Camp Eustis, Va. At the Camp Lee construction project Negro carpenters were admitted to Local No. 1534 of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America for employment on the barracks construction there. Construction officials on the project have expressed willingness to employ Negroes in all categories, Dr. Weaver said, and the Virginia Employment Service offices are preparing to requisition a large number of the needed 5,000 workers there on a state-wide clearance. Skilled carpenters on the Camp Lee project receive $1 an hour and time-and-a-half for overtime.

Negro carpenters are now at work on similar construction work at Camp Joseph T. Robinson in Arkansas, Dr. Weaver revealed, as the result of a protest filed with the Commission by Clifford E. Minton, Executive Secretary of the Urban League of Greater Little Rock.

New York Age

The State Bureau for Work at Camp Eustis, Va., has sent out a special call asking Negro skilled and semi-skilled workers, particularly carpenters, painters and bricklayers, to register for immediate work. Seventy-five Negro carpenters and laborers have been employed on the construction work at Camp Eustis during the past two weeks, it is reported, and a hundred additional men have been called for the work, which will last several months.

Sees Bans Breaking Down

DEC 21 1940

In reporting these developments, Dr. Weaver said:

New York N.Y.

"This increased employment of Negro skilled workers shows the effective operation of the agreement of the Congress of Industrial Organizations and American Federation of Labor to accept responsibility for seeing that Negroes are not discriminated against in defense employment. It also shows that unfavorable employment patterns are breaking down in many occupations from which Negroes have heretofore been barred.

"These developments emphasize the necessity for Negroes to take full advantage of all available training courses for the defense program. Fortunately, a number of Negro carpenters are available in many parts of the country. Negro workers are not so fortunate in other categories. If we take full advantage of the vocational training courses which are open to Negroes, for the first time in many cases, we will be in a better position to take advantage of the many skilled jobs which will open as the program progresses."

WEAVER REVEALS HIRING OF NEGRO UNION WORKERS

Washington Afro-American
Wash. D.C.

Jim Crow Policies Being Cracked, Cites U.S. Defense Official

DEC 14 1940

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At the Camp Lee construction

Southern Delegates In City

3-2-40 Atlanta, Ga.

Sessions Begin This Morning; Banquet Tonight

By J. C. McMORRIES

Negro craftsmen of Atlanta are assisting in the entertainment of Negro delegates from other states throughout the south.

Among the outstanding labor leaders of the Negro group, are the following: Cornelius Maiden, International Organizer, A. F. of L. and vice president-at-large Alabama State Federation of Labor; Paul Hartman, sixteenth vice-president of the International Longshoremen's Association; Jerry Jones, eleventh vice-president of the same organization; Bernard Green, vice president of the Capitol Coal Miners of Birmingham Alabama; William Jones, recording secretary of the same organization; Paul Dumas, president of the Red Ore Miners Local of Birmingham; Henry Coffee, secretary and treasurer of the same organization; Henry Jones, vice-president of the Capitol Miners, Pratt City, Alabama; Frank Evans seventh vice-president of the Automobile Workers International and organizer; Isaac Williams, organizer of Packing House and Meat Cutters International Union; E. D. Rhone, president, Longshoremen's Association of Mobile, Alabama; and M. Jackson, president of Longshoremen's local, Savannah, Georgia.

The Savoy Hotel is being used as the headquarters for the Negro delegates. Special arrangements have been made to assign visiting delegates to homes in the city through the hotel management. That is to say, homes will be used to take care of the over-flow after all hotel reservations have been taken. It is estimated that several hundred Negro delegates will be in attendance at the conference. Some of the leaders are already in the city.

LEAGUE GATHERING PLACE

The headquarters of the Atlanta Urban League will also serve as a central gathering place for the out-of-town delegates. A number of the distinguished visitors visited the League's headquarters at 250 Auburn Avenue yesterday. Among the group was Paul Hartman, vice-president of the International Longshoremen Association. The Executive Secretary of the League is working with the Committee on Arrangements headed by Cornelius Maiden, general organizer for the A. F. of L. Maiden, the only general organizer of the group, is working under the direction of George L. Googe, Southern Director of the American Federation of Labor.

The sessions of the Southern Labor Conference, beginning this (Saturday) morning, will be open to visitors. These meetings will be held in the Municipal Auditorium and Negroes who are interested in the Labor Movement are urged to attend and hear the outstanding leaders of this faction of the Labor Movement. Mr. Maiden has assured the Executive Secretary of the League that Negroes wishing to attend the general meetings in the Auditorium will not experience any difficulty in obtaining seats.

BANQUET THIS EVENING

On this Saturday night, a banquet will be held in Hanley's Hall for the visiting Negro delegates. A feature of this occasion will be the broadcasting of the banquet address of the distinguished leader of the American Federation of Labor President Green. The delegation banqueting in Hanley's Hall, will hear the speech over the radio. The instrument for this particular occasion being installed through the courtesy of Jackson Electric Company, Inc. This is an example of the cooperation of local business leaders of the Negro group in the entertainment of visiting delegates of the conference

Atlanta, Ga. Constitution
May 4, 1940

Georgia Labor Picks Johnson For President

Federation To Oppose Wage-Hour Changes; Sessions Ended.

MACON, Ga., May 3.—(AP)—Georgia's Federation of Labor closed its annual convention today by opposing amendment of the federal wage-hour law and electing Dewey L. Johnson as its president for the coming year. Johnson, president of the Atlanta Federation of Trades, was opposed by Charles B. Gramling, also of Atlanta.

Miss Allie B. Mann was chosen secretary and treasurer, and J. O. Morgan, of Macon, was named delegate to the next A. F. of L. national convention.

Elected as vice presidents for their respective districts were F. H. King, Atlanta; W. O. Owens, Augusta; T. M. Mickelson, Columbus; J. T. Price, Macon; P. M. Maxwell, Rome, and G. H. McGhee, Savannah.

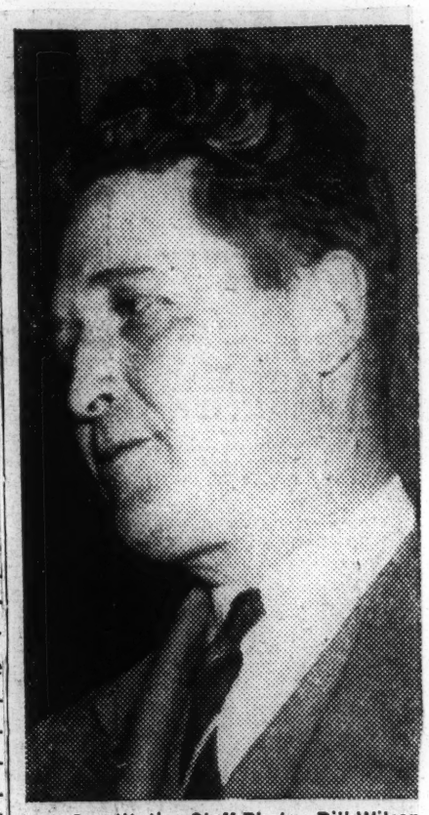
Next Convention.

Columbus was selected for the 1941 convention.

Earlier, Cornelius Maiden, Birmingham Negro labor organizer, stirred the delegates to applause with his assertion that "Negroes of the South don't want to have a damn thing to do with Mr. Lewis."

John L. Lewis heads CIO, bitter rival of the A. F. of L. for labor support.

Opposition to amendment of the wage-hour law was expressed in one of several resolutions adopted by the convention delegates. The labor group also called upon congress to enact measures to prohibit soliciting of membership in any party that owes allegiance to any foreign nation or that seeks to established a duplicate of any dictator country here.



Constitution Staff Photo—Bill Wilson

HEADS LABOR—Dewey L. Johnson, of Atlanta, was elected president of the Georgia Federation of Labor at the conclusion of its annual convention in Macon yesterday.

Other Recommendations.

Other resolutions called for changes to make the Georgia social security law apply to employers of one or more workers instead of eight or more; to reduce the cost of a chauffeur's driving license from $2 to $1, and to establish a state tenure plan for teachers.

An eight-hour workday for guards in prisons; pension and retirement pay for fire fighters not already covered; steamroller inspection; extension of unemployment payments to 20 weeks from the current 16; restriction of salary buying interest charges; construction of the flood control project in the Rome district and the placing of all common carriers in interstate transportation in the same class were other recommendations.

Atlanta Printers Admitted to Union

Call - 7-12-40 Kansas City, Mo

ATLANTA.—(ANP)—A new precedent has been set by southern white labor leaders of one of the country's greatest typographical unions, in admitting to full-fledged membership more than 20 Negro printers and pressmen, who had previously been rejected on technical grounds by the International Typographical union.

The North American Printing Pressmen and Assistants union, an affiliate of the American Federation of Labor, granted the Negro printers a charter last month, which permits them to operate independent of other locals and subordinate only to the national organization.

However, all members of the newly chartered union have the rating of "assistants", since it was granted that they had not had the privilege of learning the more complicated printing processes and rotary press operation. And upon full qualification, it is understood that they will be granted every privilege granted by the national union, in all shops—colored and white—within its jurisdiction.

A Barrier Moved

Before the charter had been granted the Negro printers, James C. McMorries, now deceased, late secretary of the Atlanta Urban League, told the writer: "If this charter is granted the Negro printers of Atlanta, it will be the greatest thing ever to happen among Negro printers in the South. It may not offer very much immediately, but it is a fundamental step towards breaking through the walls of Southern discrimination of labor unions."

More than a year had been previously spent by the Negro group seeking membership in the International Typographical union, which is also an affiliate of A.F.L. (membership now suspended), but without success. After being finally told by Secretary-treasurer Randolph of I.T.U., that they would not be admitted unless the constitution of the organization could be fundamentally changed, the Negro printers made a final appeal to a white friend, John Manry, who was a delegate to the last national convention of I.T.U. held in Fort Worth. Texas.

Manry Appeal Lost

It was reported that Manry, a lawyer as well as printer, spent a full hour on the floor of the convention in an appeal to have the constitution of the organization altered to remove the clause which prevented Negro printers from obtaining charters under I.T.U. jurisdiction. Manry failed. The essence of the arguments against Manry's plea was (according to reports of I.T.U. Journal) that "the Negro is not ready for this."

L. A. Bell, president of the new union, stated that his organization "has not as yet obtained any working agreement in any of the Negro printing plants of Atlanta, over which we have jurisdiction," and added "but we hope to be able to cooperate with our Negro printing establishments in reaching and maintaining a higher standard of workmanship and efficiency through organized effort."

ADMIT 20 NEGROES TO UNION

Courier

1-20-40

Precedent Set as Atlanta Typographical Union Drops Color Bar.

ATLANTA, July 18. (By Thomas E. Watson for ANP)—A new precedent has been set by Southern white labor leaders of one of the country's greatest typographical unions, in admitting to full-fledged membership more than 20 Negro printers and pressmen, who had been previously been rejected on technical grounds by the International Typographical union.

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Charleston, S. C. News & Courier
October 25, 1940

UNION FUNDS ARE SHORT

Longshoremen Deprived of $200,000 in 6 Years

New Orleans, Oct. 24.—(INS): Sweeping changes in the largest Negro longshoremen's union in the city were revealed in New Orleans today following allegations charging discrepancies of nearly a quarter of million dollars in union funds.

The Negro group, an affiliate of the I. L. A. of the A. F. of L., according to the revelations today, were allegedly deprived of more than $200,000 in funds over a six year period.

First hint of irregularities came when a petition was filed with the national labor relations board demanding a complete investigation. After this petition was made, officials of the I. L. A. and the A. F. of L., sent in investigators to make a complete probe of the local union's affairs.

An investigation by them allegedly revealed that the union books showed the local chapter as having received $189,000 over the six year period. A comparison with local steamship companies, with whom the union had closed shop contracts, show that more than $400,000 was marked as paid to the union.

As a result of the investigation, eight union officials have resigned, two of them being ousted. One of those removed from office was the president.

Paris, Tenn., Post-Intelligencer
November 29, 1940

STRIKE SETTLED AT GILBERTSVILLE

GILBERTSVILLE, Ky.—Construction on the $95,000,000 TVA Kentucky Dam Project, suspended since American Federation of Labor craftsmen walked out Tuesday in protest against the laying off of a foreman for fighting with two negro workers, will be resumed Monday.

Official announcement of the settlement is expected today. However, it was learned Thursday night that the unions have accepted proposals made by TVA officials that the foreman involved will be returned to work if the men will go back on the job

HOTEL AND RESTAURANT EMPLOYEES ALLIANCE

Hotel Union Makes Gains In Uniting Negro and White

Hotel and Restaurant Employes Alliance has a long record of promoting solidarity between Negro and white workers. Above are shown the 21 delegates who attended the second annual convention o the union in 1893. Three of the delegates were Negro workers.

Red Caps Fight Representation by Lily Whites

Afro-American
10/29/40
Baltimore, Md.

CHICAGO.—The United Transport Service Employes of America, red caps' union, last week challenged, before the National Mediation Board, the legality of arbitrary scope agreements through which thousands of colored railroad employees are denied a voice in employer-employee negotiations.

The hearing brought into the open a conflict which has been brewing beneath the surface for the past two years, between the UTSEA and the Brotherhood of Railway Clerks, an AFL affiliate.

The contested agreements, covering many crafts and classes of employment, were said to operate unfavorably against workers who are not permitted to join the standard brotherhoods, and who hitherto have been forced out of the industry by the job control mechanisms in many of these scope agreements.

Represent 95 Per Cent

The particular case involves the red caps at the St. Paul Terminal who are allegedly covered by a scope agreement with the Brotherhood of Railway Clerks.

Because of this, UTSEA officials stated, the company has refused to bargain with the red caps' union despite the fact that over 95 per cent of the employees have selected the UTSEA as their bargaining agency.

Aside from their work as red caps, a minor portion of their duties are janitoral.

Demand Certification

The UTSEA contends that these employees constitute a craft or class of employees within the meaning of the Railway Labor Act, and are therefore entitled to separate representation. The union is demanding certification as the collective bargaining agency.

Willard S. Townsend, UTSEA president, recently appeared before the National Mediation Board with representatives of the clerks' union for a preliminary hearing on the matter, at which time a compromise settlement was attempted, but did not materialize.

The case has been docketed by the board and both organizations have filed memorandum briefs outlining the basis for their contending positions on the question. It is expected to come up for formal hearing within the next few weeks.

Charge AF of L with Effort to Split Red Caps

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.
11/2/40

CHICAGO — The American Federation of Labor has been openly accused of attempting to split the ranks of the nation's red caps in an underhand effort to reap the profits of that group's organizational progress.

The charge is made in a recently issued open letter to William Green, AF of L president, from Willard S. Townsend, international president, and other officials of the United Transport Service Employees of America, red caps' union, with headquarters here.

Discrimination Protested

Attention is called to discriminatory provisions in the constitution of the Brotherhood of Railway Clerks, under whose domination the red caps would fall, as justification for their opposition to AF of L affiliation, and to AF of L insistence that the UTSEA be dissolved into subservient federal locals.

Violation of fraternal principles are charged to AF of L. representatives in efforts to disrupt legitimate negotiations between the UTSEA and the Pennsylvania Railroad, alleged attempts to bribe local red cap leaders and in issuing charters to "individuals who have been expelled from the UTSEA because of questionable activity."

Musicians Charge They Were Balked By Union

National Guardian
Baltimore, Md.
10/28/40

CHICAGO, Ill. — (ANP) — Charges that its members were "hamstrung" by the Musicians Union, Local 208, an affiliate of the American Federation of Labor, when it opened its convention here with a Sunday night program before a crowd of 5,000 at the American Negro Exposition, were made last week by the National Association of Negro Musicians. The organization numbers among its membership top ranking artists throughout the nation.

Few members of the association belong to the union. These top ranking concert artists and composers were barred by Local 208 from performing at the exposition in the Chicago Coliseum unless a special union tax of $10 was paid for every association musician who touched an instrument or accompanied a singer, it was charged.

The Coliseum it was charged is dominated by unions so that the union musicians could call out the electricians and other union help if their mandate were not obeyed Among the artists thus banned was R. Nathaniel Dett, famous composer and director of music at Bennett College, Greensboro, N. C.

The dilemma of the National Association of Negro Musicians was highlighted because their program occurred on the last day of "Woman's Week." For seven days the leading women of the country and Chicago had carried on a busy program at the exposition.

The women, chairmaned by Mrs. Wendell E. Green, had prepared scores of musical programs. On every one of these, however, the musician's union demanded a $10 tribute. Had the women yielded the cost would have been about $1,000.

WOMEN REBELLED

The women, however, rebelled against what they called "gangster tactics," refusing to use a single instrument of any character if they had to pay. The women, too, protested the action of the union in charging $60 every Sunday because the six choirs, who sang at the combined religious services, had each an accompanist. The women had vocal numbers all A Capella and made the welkin ring without pianos.

The musicians association began its session with a great mass meeting after listening to a sermon by the Rev. Joseph M. Evans, pastor of the Metropolitan Community Church, on the subject, "Music and its relation to Life."

The Cab Strike

OCT 27 1940

Chicago Bee

LABOR strife has now become the lot of several hundred jitney cab drivers who make their multiple trips along the southside boulevards. The drivers have fared hard since they began their novel community-rate system some eight years ago. Labor troubles invariably brings in new sacrifices to be borne by both the employee and the employer. Labor troubles, too, oftimes make patrons the innocent victims. It should not be the case in the cab strike.

The public has gone along with the drivers and owners when it was considered rather risky to ride in their cars. When the jitney system was introduced on the South Side police officers were so bent on getting it off the boulevards that they resorted to the use of their revolvers and often shots were fired to frighten the driver and terrorize his passengers. The drivers kept driving and the passengers kept riding. The public was with them because the Chicago Motor Coach company and the white cab companies refused to hire Negro chauffeurs although a considerable portion of their income was derived from Negro patronage.

Chicago, Ill.

The pressure was put on the drivers and scores found themselves in jail. That did not stop them for they kept on jitneying. Lawyers took their cases to the local courts and to the state supreme court and the decisions were against them. The cab owners or drivers adopted different techniques and their business continued.

When the pressure was released business got good. An avalanche of cabs flooded the boulevards. The southside share of the 3,000 vehicle licenses issued for the privilege of operating cabs could not adequately supply the South Side and private cars were used to supplement the cabs.

The public has gone along exceedingly well with the drivers and the owners although sometimes at great risks. It is hoped that the strike will not work to the detriment of the passengers.

OCT 27 1940

Therefore, those who are in charge of the strike should keep in mind that the public must be protected at all costs. It too often happens in strikes between competing unions that the public is given no consideration at all and many times becomes the object of brutal attacks by labor "goons."

The present strike cannot hazard the fis of alienating the good will of an independen public for if it does both sides to the contro versy will be the losers.

Chicago Negro Cabbies Strike For Basic Rights

Daily Worker
New York Ed.
NOV 15 1940

'Red Squad' Terrorized Strikers Picketing in Blizzard; Union Finds Only Help in CIO After Rejection by AFL Officials

(Special to the Daily Worker)

CHICAGO, Nov. 14.—Three hundred striking South Side Negro taxi drivers, carrying on a major battle for the right of colored workers to organize, today sent America an appeal for help after four weeks of struggle.

Members of Local 201 of the CIO Transport Workers Union, the men continued picketing today in front of the taxicab garages as a severe storm changed into a blowing snow. Back in strike headquarters at 5125 S. State St., their wives tried to scrape up enough vegetables to give them a dish of hot stew apiece when they returned from the picket line.

"We are fighting against the system of industrial sharecropping which the taxicab companies have impossed upon us Negro taxi drivers," A. C. Perryman, president of Local 201, said as he returned from the picket line.

"We are fighting not only to raise our own wages and living standards but to make democracy mean something for all the Negro workers of America."

"Officer Sylvester 'Two-Gun' Pete Washington, helped out by the Chicago Red Squad, has broken into our headquarters, several times, arresting our men and throwing them in jail on frame-up charges ranging from 'arson' to 'disorderly conduct'.

"They call us 'reds' because we've got the guts to stand up and fight for our rights as Negroes and as Americans. But we've already made splendid progress in this strike and we're going to stay on the picket line until we win."

The CIO came like a ray of hope to the taxi drivers of the South Side. Working 12 and 14 hours per day, seven days a week, for wages averaging about two dollars per day, the drivers must first sought admission into the Taxi Drivers Union of the AFL International Brotherhood of Teamsters, dominated in this city by Democratic States Attorney Thomas E. Courtney.

But they were told bluntly by Leslie Goudie, of the IBT District Council that membership in the taxi drivers Union was restricted to "white men of good moral character," and told to apply to the AFL Car Washers Helpers Union. Since that time, the taxicab companies have been trying to force the drivers into this jim crow organization, having signed a "contract" whose terms are kept strictly secret between the AFL officials and the bosses.

Chicago Negro Cabbies Strike For Better Pay

Daily Worker
6-29-40, p. 1

Fight Is Intensified as Red-Baiting Move of Bosses Fails; Present Rules Require Drivers to Break Law, Pay Own Fines

(Special to the Daily Worker)

CHICAGO, June 28.—Despite a red-baiting effort to stymie collective bargaining, 500 striking Negro cab drivers on Chicago's South Side, who recently affiliated with the CIO, stood firm today in their demands for better working conditions. The drivers, who are employed by some 30 different companies, walked out June 10, in protest against restrictions which made it virtually impossible for the men to earn a living. Under the system in operation heretofore, the cabbies rented the cabs from the owners, at the rate of $4.50 for a 12-hour day shift and $5.50 for a 12-hour night shift.

In addition, the driver had to buy gasoline and oil from the owner, at prices set by the owner. Also the drivers had to pick up several passengers on one trip, if there was a call for such service, although such "bus-stop" taxicab service at the passenger rate which were in effect is in violation of both city and Chicago Park Division ordinances. If the drivers were arrested they had to pay any court costs or fines out of their own pockets.

DEMAND NEW RATES

Demands of the strikers, who organized last Monday into the Bronzeville Chauffeurs Union, are:

1. Recognition of the union as the collective bargaining agent for the drivers.

2. Reduction of rental rates on cabs to $3.25 for the day shift and $4.25 for the night shift.

3. Gasoline to be sold to the men at one cent above the actual tank cost per gallon, and oil to be sold to the men at 15 cents a quart, with the provision that no driver be required to buy more than two quarts in any 12-hour shift.

Last Monday the men voted to go CIO, and formed the Bronzeville Chauffeurs Union, with John Patrick as president. The union is temporarily affiliated with Local 347 of the Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee.

STRIKING CAB DRIVERS ORDERED OFF STREETS

CHICAGO, July 3—(ANP)—Five hundred colored taxicab drivers, members of the Bronzeville Chauffeurs' Safety Association, were ordered off the streets Sunday by district police, who said the drivers, on strike since June 9, were carrying passengers free.

Some, driving regulation cabs, and others private automobiles, the southside taxi drivers operate dime-a-ride jitney cabs in the area bounded by 31st and 67th streets, State street and Cottage Grove avenue.

The Bronzeville Chauffeurs' Safety Association, headed by John Patrick, called a taxicab strike on June 9 in protest of high rental rates by cab owners. Several days later many drivers returned to work.

The United Taxicab Owners' Association held that the drivers had no right to strike since their organization is chartered as a non-profit social group. This action was followed by a recommendation by Capt. Daniel Gilbert, chief investigator for State's Attorney Courtney, that the association's charter be revoked.

PROGRESSIVE

WALTER M. DAWSON, only member of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers of the World, and an employee of the Sargent Engineering company, who will become maintenance electrician for the Bedford Dwellings and Terrace Village in Pittsburgh when his present contract expires. The husband of Mary Cardwell Dawson, president of the National Musicians' Association, Mr. Dawson recently accompanied his wife to Chicago to attend the association convention. —

VOTE TO ORGANIZE ALL RAILWAY, BUS, AIRPORT WORKERS

By GEORGE S. SCHUYLER
(Staff Correspondent)

NEW YORK, Jan. 18.—That the Red Caps mean business was evident in the demeanor and declarations of the forty-four delegates from forty cities who gathered here Friday noon at the 137th street Y.W.C.A. for the second convention of the young International Brotherhood of Red Caps.

Fired by the fighting talk of President Willard S. Townsend that 'We maintain and will continue to maintain as long as there is an ounce of fight left in me—that tips are not wages," and that "It is our task to organize and assist in the organization of every unorganized transport service employee in America," the delegates unanimously voted to change the name of the organization to the United Transport Service Employees Union of America, and to start a drive to sign up all Red Caps and porters, janitors, elevator operators, cleaners and sweepers employed at railway, air and bus terminals and stations in the United States. The delegates were also a unit for the continuance of the fight to outlaw tips as wages, to establish a steady rate of pay and to win $3,000,000 back pay.

TOWNSEND REVIEWS STRUGGLE

In his stirring address, President Townsend, in reviewing the struggle of the union to improve the status of transport service employees, told of its growth in three short years from fifteen to forty locals, of its first victory on September 29, 1938, when the Interstate Commerce Commission granted Red Caps the status of "employees" as used in the Railway Labor Act, and of its second victory when it won certification as a bargaining agent by the National Mediation Board. This victory resulted in it being overwhelmingly selected as bargaining agent in almost every election. The Mediation Board's services were invoked seventeen times in 1939 by the union.

TIPS VERSUS WAGES

In discussing the long fight to outlaw tips as wages, President Townsend said that the union won the first round in the battle on October 21, 1939, when the U. S. Labor Department's Wage and Hour Division filed suit against the Cincinnati Terminal Company in the Federal District Court of Southern Ohio, seeking an injunction to discontinue the reporting of tips by Red Caps. The railroads have been forcing these workers to report $2 a day in tips, and this is being counted as wages. As a result of this practice, Red Caps have been receiving so-called salary checks for such ridiculous sums as three cents, five cents and six cents for two weeks' work.

Delegates pointed out that tips are too sporadic, infrequent and uncertain to be classed as wages within the meaning of the law, but that the services rendered by Red Caps are steady, certain and vital to the carriers' station maintenance and passenger service.

$3,000,000 BACK PAY SUIT

Great interest was manifested in the union's suit for $3,000,000 in unpaid wages due 2,000 Red Caps. This legal step, launched without awaiting the outcome of the government's suit against the Cincinnati Terminal, has been filed in the Federal Courts at Chicago, Washington, D.C., Cincinnati, O., and Oklahoma City. Other suits are shortly to be filed at Indianapolis, Columbus, Ohio, and Memphis, Tenn. The railroads cited are the Pennsylvania, New York Ceneral, Illinois Central, Chicago & Western Indiana, Chicago and Northwestern and the Rock Island. Terminals cited are those in Cincinnati, Chicago and Washington. As there is a total of more than 4,500 Red Caps, the amount of back pay due the entire group probably aggregates $5,000,000 or more.

Delegates listened with rapt attention to the detailed report made by Leon M. Despres, general counsel of the union, on the status of the various suits.

BARGAINING AND GRIEVANCES

"The most important task of our union," said President Townsend, "is in the direction of training our members for effective service and leadership. * * * The future success or failure of our union depends largely upon the ability of our members and officers to quickly recognize and clearly understand the collective problems we constantly face, and above all, to seek our solutions on the basis of this recognition and understanding. If we are to continue to build our union, we will discover, or already have discovered, that the backbone of this building process lies in the development of our grievance and bargaining machinery."

There was general agreement among the delegates that without this training and experience the union, both locally and nationally, could not hope to properly represent the members in dealing with the carriers and terminals.

INTERRACIAL UNION

From Ernest Calloway, alert young educational director and editor of the official union magazine, "Bags and Baggage," it was learned that over 3,000 of the 4,500 Red Caps in the country are members of the young union. In Seattle there is a local of 35 Japanese Red Caps. In Columbus, Ohio, the local is composed of colored and white Red Caps. There are a few white members in Chicago.

While a large number of white Red Caps joined in 1938, the majority of them pulled out. There are 200 whites in Chicago, 80 in St. Louis, 35 in Denver and 98 in Kansas City.

Most of the original local organizations were federal locals in the American Federation of Labor, but they withdrew and formed the Brotherhood because of the color bar in the railway clerks' union which had jurisdiction over them. Two locals, in Dallas and Jacksonville, are still in the A. F. of L.

The United Transport Service Employees' Union of America, however, is not affiliated either with the A. F. of L. or the C.I.O.

WOMEN ORGANIZED

Much in evidence at the New York convention were the delegates and officers of the Women's Auxiliary of the union, headed by Miss Hazel Hayes. There were present thirteen women delegates from seven cities. While there are probably few women transport service employees, the women have played an important part in helping along the organization of the union and holding it together. They are the wives, mothers, sisters and daughters of Red Caps.

OFFICERS RE-ELECTED

The final session of the convention saw the re-election of President Townsend, Secretary-Treasurer John L. Yancey, and the entire administrative staff with the exception of A. J. McGhee.

The union adopted a new constitution along with its new name This new constitution sets up procedure on the development of system and district organization, as well as procedure on all trials and grievances.

The convention voted endorsement of the Federal anti-lynching bill, opposed entrance of the United States into the current world war, favored a general referendum on war, opposed the Mobilization Day plans of the War Department, and voted life memberships to Alfred Baker Lewis, Julian Steele and H. W. L. Dana, of Boston, for the help given to the organization work in that city where they were instrumental in founding the Committee to Aid Red Caps, whose chairman is Prof. C. Fayette Taylor, of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. The delegates also voted to support the sugar workers and rejected a proposed alliance with the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters.

The next convention will be held in 1942 in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Among the speakers who addressed the convention were Frank R. Crosswaith, general organizer of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union; A. Philip Randolph, president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters; Lester Granger, well-known social worker, and William Pickens, director of branches of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

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INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF RED CAPS

ADVISE THAT RACE BARRIERS BE FORGOTTEN

President Townsend Gives Stirring Address At N.Y. Conference

NEW YORK, Jan. 19—Sounding a call-to-arms Willard S. Townsend, president of International Brotherhood of Red Caps, at the second annual international convention held here January 12-13-14, told nearly 100 delegates from all sections of the country that "out of the darkness of war, a new destiny has been created for the American Labor movement . . . a destiny which places responsibility on the labor movement to keep aflame the torch of freedom, liberty and the free and voluntary association of workers everywhere."

Among outstanding speakers were Frank R. Crosswaith, chairman of Negro Labor committee, N. Y.; Miss Hazel Hayes, national director of Ladies Auxiliary, I B.R.C.; A. Phillip Randolph, president Sleeping Car Porters; Lester P. Granger, secretary of Committee on Negro Welfare; and William Pickens, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Among reports heard was one on the result of the I.B.R.C. battle with the railroads in an effort to beat the "Accounting and Agreement" requirements adapted by the railroads in order not to pay wages to red caps.

President Townsend said: "If we resolve ourselves to confusion, doubt and uncertainty, it means the beginning of the end of the labor movement. . . . American labor cannot afford the luxury of continued discrimination on account of race, creed or color. . . . We entered the labor movement at a time when there were several unorganized groups. Two years ago we joined hands.

"This unit grew from 15 locals to more than 40 at present time. Since then, the derision of the railroads has changed to respect. The basis for this changed attitude is contained in the following seven points: (1) Interstate Commerce Commission case; (2) Mediation Board election; (3) the Wage and Hour case; (4) The contracts negotiated; (5) Membership gains; (6) our grievance work and (7) the $3,000,000 wage recovery suit.

"We maintain and will maintain as long as there is an ounce of fight left in us—that tips are not wages. . . . The future success of I. B. R. C. depends largely on the ability of members and officers to quickly recognize and clearly understand the collective problems we constantly face. . . . It is our task to secure and maintain justice, equality and security for our membership."

In his address Dean Pickens said that the "pullman porter did as much to make the Pullman company great as did any other factor . . . and the Pullman company and railway companies have educated more colored men than all the Rosenwald and other funds in the country."

He also told the red caps "to destroy color lines if you want to make any progress . . . don't let your jealousies control you. . . . There will always be Negroes on railroads as porters and red caps, for there is a higher class of Negro men in that field than the railroads could get from the white race."

The convention banquet was held at the Y.W.C.A. Sunday night. The next international meeting will be held in 1941.

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INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF SLEEPING CAR PORTERS

PRESIDENT RANDOLPH

A. Philip Randolph is president of the International Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, an affiliate of the A. F. L. Antagonism exists between the A.F.L. of which William Green is president and the C.I.O., headed by John L. Lewis. The National Colored Congress at its Washington session was overwhelmingly partial to the C.I.O. It is a fair inference that from these facts and their implications emanate the essential reasons for Mr. Randolph's refusal to stand for re-election to the presidency of the Congress which he has ably served since it was organized five years ago.

But his attitude toward a limited membership on the basis of color and race is not so easy to defend. His proposal for organizations of Colored people to stand by themselves when confronted by enemies who are unified and who do not scruple to make use of colored traitors is impractical. In fact, the racialist line which he advocates is never put into operation without active assistance from the most reactionary elements in society, collective as well as individual, always anxious to divide the common people of America, black and white, in order to circumvent their United movement towards peace, security, and happiness.

Brotherhood Head Against Conscription

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Ill.
8-31-40

NEW YORK—"Universal compulsory conscription is unnecessary in times of peace," declared A. Philip Randolph, president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, in a statement issued last week. "If enacted by congress, it will sound the death knell of American democracy. It is the essence of totalitarianism. It means regimentation of our social, economic and political life."

Mr. Randolph is a member of the governing committee of the Keep America Out of War congress and serves on the labor committee of that organization.

Under compulsory military conscription, Mr. Randolph said that minority groups would be helpless to fight for democratic rights and privileges. Questions of the enactment of anti-lynching legislation, the suppression of the Ku Klux Klan, and the maintenance of social and labor gains made through legislation would all become subordinant to the one big cause of American militarism, he felt.

Randolph Bitter Foe Of Conscription Bill

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A. PHILIP RANDOLPH

Longshoremen's Union Sued for $20,000

A suit asking for $20,000, damages and an injunction against the International Longshoremen's Association, its secretary and busness manager was filed in the Circuit Court last week by Joseph Hurd, a Chicago dock worker, who charges that the union refuses to admit him into its local because of his race.

The complaint, filed by Attorney Ulysses S. Keys, states that Hurd was dismissed from the Chicago Local together with some thirty other members in 1937 because of an alleged conspiracy on the part of the defendants.

Left City in Search of Work

Hurd was forced to leave Chicago to seek employment at the docks of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, the complaint states. He was admitted into membership in local number 815 of the Milwaukee branch of the International Longshoremen's Association, but had to leave that state because the climate was injurious to the health of his wife.

He returned to Chicago and presented his transfer from the Milwaukee Local to the Chicago Local and because of the conspiracy of the defendants the transfer was not honored.

Refuses Negro Workers

The complaint alleges that Hurd and a large number of Colored workers are deprived of membeship in the Local. It sets out that, although Colored are members, a policy has been adopted to prevent others from entering. Non-union men are required to pay $1 a week for a permit to work and they may be replaced at any time by a union man who only pays $1.50 a month dues.

The complaint says that because of the discrimination against non-union stevedores he cannot make the same amount of money that a union man can and that he gets the hardest tasks and the shortest hours.

He asks an injunction against Stanley Laz, business agent and Frank Hess, the secretary of the union to enjoin them from preventing him from gaining employment at the various docks in Chicago.

LONG CZAR OF WATERFRONT

His 8-Year Reign Brought Negroes Many Benefits

OCT 26 1940

NEW ORLEANS.—Paul Hortman, president of the International Longshoremen Association, Local 1419, resigned last week after about eight years of effective development of labor initiative in New Orleans and the Gulf Coast. Hortman's entire executive cabinet followed him in his resignation.

Rumors were adrift that Hortman's resignation was made under fire following an investigation into the financial structure of the local I.L.A., but authoritative sources deny this accusation.

In less than eight years, under Hortman's leadership, the financial and numerical strength of the local I.L.A. grew from nothing to a membership of more than 2,000 longshoremen paying annual dues of some $63,000. Of this amount more than $61,000 is spent in various beneficial accruements to the membership.

The organization recently purchased a building on South Rampart Street in which to hold meetings and carry on the business of the organization. It is one of the prize structures owned by Negroes in the city.

Hortman retains the international vice-presidency of the I.L.A. He also resigned from the State Labor federation, the first Negro to hold such position.

When Hortman took over the local longshoremen organization, workers were receiving about 50 cents per hour and all modes of discrimination were being dealt Negroes on the waterfront. Today, through Hortman's manipulations, longshoremen are paid over $1 per hour for regular time and $1.50 per hour for overtime, under the best working conditions in the nation with practically no discrimination against Negro workers.

New Orleans Minister Assails New Longshoreman Official As Henchman

NOV 9 1940

By JAMES B. LAFOURCHE

NEW ORLEANS—Addressing the Negro Press club here last Saturday, Rev. Z. D. Scott bitterly assailed the appointment of Hayward E. Augustine to head the cabinet of the International Longshoremens' Association, Local No. 1419, an affiliate of the A. F. of L., whose officials, it is stated, are to be questioned concerning a shortage approximating a quarter of a million dollars.

Rev. Scott further contended that Augustine's past record on the river front both as a "scab" and a henchman for Joseph P. Ryan, white labor solon of the I.L.A. renders him unfit to guard the destinies of the "rank and file" workers now left in a panic.

In conclusion, the irate clergyman charged that Augustine had never been elected to his present position of president of the Freight Handlers' Association, Local No. 854, but that "Poor Old Man Smiles," of Algiers, La., had been tricked as the result of a crooked deal engineered by Augustine and two prominent labor officials whose names are being withheld.

Spencer Raps Augustine

Another to give a statement concerning Augustine, was Joseph B. Spencer, former president of the "Old Longshoremen's Union." Spencer not only verified Rev. Scott's remarks, but added that Augustine, while a member of Spencer's organization, betrayed the confidence reposed in him and told the white man (Ryan) everything the Negroes were doing. "A demand for the removal of Augustine should be requested," said Spencer.

Longshoremen Hold 30th Confab In New Orleans

PAUL HARTMAN

NEW ORLEANS—A strong advocacy for unity among all laboring classes was made clear in the opening session of the thirtieth annual convention of the South Atlantic and Gulf Coast District of the International Longshoremen's Association of A.F. of L. being held here May 13 to 17.

An extensive organization movement is being manipulated so as to swell the longshoremen's rolls to new heights.

Paul Hartman, president of local No. 1419 and the first member of the Race to be placed on the executive board, was instrumental in having his chapter purchase a fine two-story brick building. There are 2,300 members in the local. In addressing the group he gave a brief history of the local. His address in part follows:

"We are proud to say that our men are among the best wage earners in this section of the country and through the support of the American Federation of Labor, our people not only make money enough to support their families, but they are today making money enough to live decently in modern homes and educate their children. All of these conditions have been brought about through the organized American labor movement.

"The Negro in this section of the country realizes that he can reach his goal only through organizations. He further realizes that 'united we stand, divided we fall' and he also believes in supporting the people who believe in real Americanism and not in fascism, nazism or communism. I speak for at least 2,300 members of the I.L.A., Local Union 1419 at the port of New Orleans. The Negro who believes in these foreign isms has been taught to look forward to social equality, but the people whom I represent and speak for have been taught that there is only one thing to look forward to in America that will benefit everybody concerned, that is economic equality and when the laborers of my race have been placed on par economically with other races, their problems will have been solved because my people are today equal to any task as they of other races.

"You can find them in all walks of life, being able to master every conceivable class of work that is to be performed, so it behooves the other races in our American Federation of Labor group, to face the issue by bringing his colored brother up to his economic standard or his colored brother will be forced to bring him down to his level.

"This, of course, we know will not do the labor movement any good but as we all know where the bosses are able to keep friction between the two laboring groups he then steps in and takes advantage of both, pits one group against the other and it is only a case of time until both laboring groups, white and colored, shall be destroyed. So let us put our shoulders to the wheel; keep the wheels of progress rolling; keep organized labor together for one common cause—that is to give the employer a fair day's work for a fair day's pay; better our economic and social status and make the community in which we live a better place as well as making the task of the organized labor movement easier for all concerned.

"When these things have been considered by both groups, my forefathers and my fellow-workers' forefathers would feel proud if it were possible for them to look back over the race that has been made through their efforts and through their meagre earnings and say to themselves that they had done a good job. Let us remember that, as well as, other things that have been accomplished through the American Federation of Labor; no organization could have accomplished these things. So for that reason my advice to my people is to let's get together and make a bigger and better American Federation of Labor."

Union Accused of Discrimination In Suit

Pittsburgh Courier
Sept 28 1940
Pitt., Pa.

CHICAGO, Sept. 26. (ANP)—Charges that the International Longshoremen's Association, Local 19, has been discriminating against Negroes were contained in a suit filed Thursday in circuit court by Joseph Hurd, a Southside dock worker.

Hurd asks a mandatory injunction to force the union to reinstate him and $20,000 for loss of earnings since June 1, 1937.

DR. MAX YERGAN

Yergan Hails I.W.O. Fight For Liberties

Negro Congress Leader Pledges Cooperation to Defend Civil Rights

Dr. Max Yergan, outstanding Negro leader and President of the National Negro Congress, brought 750 delegates to the Fifth National Convention of the International Workers Order to their feet cheering yesterday as he pledged the full cooperation of his organization in battling for the maintenance and extension of civil liberties here and in fighting against American participation in the European war.

The convention is in session at American people today at home, Yergan declared, was "the protection and extension of our civil liberties. It is impossible to consider any phase of our life in which the problem of maintaining and extending civil liberties is not involved."

All peoples must be given these basic rights guaranteed by the Constitution and the Bill of Rights, he continued. The I. W. O. especially must be concerned with the rights of minority groups in this country. He lashed out at the series of bills attacking the foreign-born which have been introduced in Congress recently as a threat to the liberties of all. The Negro people, he declared, know the meaning of any attack upon a single group of the population. The anti-lynching bill and the Geyer anti-poll tax bill must be passed, he stated, if American democracy is to be a democracy for the people.

"The common nature of the problems that face us," he declared, make it absolutely necessary for the Negro Congress and the I. W. O. to "see eye to eye."

"We must work together," he said, "toward the goal of real American democracy and . . . that objective of keeping our country out of war."

Earlier in the afternoon Dr. Henry E. Sigerist, noted author and Professor of Medical History at Johns Hopkins University, addressed the convention. He congratulated the Order for its fight for a progressive health program for the U. S. and called for the passage of the Wagner Health Bill. He assailed the Washington administration for abandoning its program for public health. The Wagner Health Bill, he declared, inadequate as it is, is nevertheless the object of violent attacks by Congressional reactionaries. Its passage, he stated, is vital for the health of the American people.

While medical science has made enormous progress in the last two decades, its benefits have not been made available to the people as a whole. One-third of the people of the U. S., he charged, earn less than $800 yearly and cannot afford to pay anything whatsoever for medical care. It is one of the many beneficial features of the I.W.O., he said, that it makes medical care available to these people.

PANEL SESSIONS

In the morning session of the convention panel discussions were held on the problems facing the I.W.O. branches throughout the nation. In all the panels—women, national minorities, youth, education—emphasis was placed on the strong cooperation between the 14 different nationalities that comprise the membership of the I.W.O. The discussion by the delegates centered about the need of bringing the I.W.O., with its program of fraternalism and security, to the people in the communities. The many health benefits offered through membership in the I.W.O. must be made clear to the working people throughout the nation.

The problem of the fight against the war danger was brought out at the panels. Delegates told of the activities of branches in organizing mass meetings, petition campaigns and chain letters against U. S. participation in the imperialist war.

Following adjournment of the day's session, a reception for women delegates to the convention was held at the Riverside Plaza. The delegates were greeted in the name of the General Executive Board by Louis Thompson, National Recording Secretary of the order.

The women delegates were offered a program of music including the performance of several selections by the I.W.O. string trio. Russian, Polish and Ukrainian children's dance groups from the junior language section of the order then offered a program of folk dances. The entertainment was concluded with a program of Negro spirituals sung by Miss Louis Birch, Negro contralto member of the I.W.O.

Later in the evening the youth section of the order held a jamboree. The dance was attended by a large number of the delegates. Earl Browder, General Secretary of the Communist Party, will address the convention today.

Louise Thompson Elected As One Of Vice Presidents Of I. W. O.

NEW YORK — Miss Louise Thompson, who for seven years acted in the capacity first as organizer, then as National Recording Secretary and later as Secretary of all English-speaking lodges of the International Workers Order, has now been elected as one of the organization's Vice presidents. The election took place at the Fifth National Convention of the

IWO which convened in New York City from June 8 to 15th.

Miss Thompson is widely known as an organizer and leader. Born in Chicago she was taken at an early age to the far west, receiving her preliminary education in Oregon, Idaho, Nevada, Washington, which was completed with her entrance into the University of Berkeley. She was graduated from Berkeley a high ranking student with the degree of Bachelor of Science.

After working in the business world in San Francisco for some time Miss Thompson returned to her home town where she continued working in this field. In 1927 she left Chicago to teach in the State College at Pine Bluff Arkansas.

She left Arkansas to teach at Hampton Institute. While still at Hampton she was awarded an Urban League Fellowship and left to study at the New York School of Social Work. Her first direct activity in racial affairs began in 1930 when she went to work with Hubert C. Herring, Secretary of the Depaprtment of Social Relations of the Congregational Education Society. In this organization she helped to promote an interracial seminar which took a group of outstanding Negro and white citizens through the South. Later she went to Mexico as part of the staff of the Seminar in Mexica conducted by the same organization.

LEADER

MISS LOUISE THOMPSON
Able organizer, elected one of the vice-presidents of the International Workers Order, Inc.

Louise Thompson Now AIOW V. Pres.

NEW YORK—Miss Louise Thompson, who for seven years acted first as organizer, then as National Recording Secretary and later as Secretary of all English-speaking lodges of the International Workers Order, was elected one of the organization's Vice-presidents at the Fifth National Convention of the I.W.O. which convened here June 8 to 15.

Born in Chicago Miss Thompson was taken at an early age to the far west, receiving her preliminary education in Oregon, Idaho, Nevada, Washington, and is a B. S. of the University of Berkeley.

After working in the business world in San Francisco for some time Miss Thompson returned to her home town where she continued working in this field. In 1927 she left Chicago to teach in the State College at Pine Bluff, Arkansas.

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In a statement made by the National Executive Board of the International Workers Order they referred to Miss Thompson's election as follows: "Miss Thompson's future work in our Order will broaden and strengthen its leadership and will serve its needs in a field which requires major atention. The experience acquired by Miss Thompsonu fit her particularly for the duties of fraternal leadership and we feel confident that she will be successful in those duties and a credit to the Order."

In accepting her now office Miss Thompson said:

"I accept with a deep sense of appreciation the office of Vice-President in the International Workers Order. In selecting a colored woman for this high office, our Order once more demonstrates most graphically its aim as an American fraternal society which brings together men and women of all races, creeds and nationalities on an equal plane to work collectively for a common aim."

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KENTUCKY

ELECTED BY UNION

LOUISVILLE, Key. (C)—For the first time since the early days of its organization, the Tobacco Workers' International Union elected a Negro, George Benjamin, to the executive board. The majority of the workers in the tobacco industry are Negroes.

OCT 3 1940

Negro Beauticians At New Orleans Join White Union

Negro Labor News

Last week New Orleans beauticians numbering close to one hundred signed up with a newly organized beauticians local under the auspices of the American Federation of Labor. The local is headed by William Stevens, male beautician and owner of a beauty shop. Most of the leading beauty shops have aligned themselves with the organization.

In so affiliating the American Federation of Labor, Negro labor leaders were given another battle to fight in behalf of Negro business interests for they fear that it is another step in a seemingly organized effort to deprive Negro interests of one of their largest economic interest.

Throughout the North and in numerous places in Texas and the entire South, instances of whites opening beauty shops in Negro districts and employing Negro operators have been recorded. Already this movement has taken money from Negro beauticians and a greater portion is predicted will be taken if the movement gets fully underway.

Viewed by Negro labor leaders the movement to organize Negro beauticians is for the purpose of setting up union wage scales and dues that will make it impossible for many Negro beauty shop owners to pay and when they fail to meet union requirements white monied union beauty shop owners will step into the Negro district and set up shops.

Although it is true that these white beautyowners will undoubtedly be able to pay the operators more money it will kill Negro beauty shop ownership and since it is a concensus of opinion that a group is no stronger than its property ownership it will be detriment to perhaps the race's greatest business interest.

C.I.O. Organizer Pleads For Class Regulations

NEW ORLEANS.—Ernest Scott, C.I.O. organizer and Race member of the executive council of the National Maritime union, a C&.I.O. affiliate, forcefully pleaded for class regulation before a group of CIO officials and sympathizers in a special organization meeting here last week.

Pointing out the necessity for labor and capital to get together, Mr. Scott, preambled, "The two most important classes in our population are those represented by capital and labor. These two are two great factors concerned in the production of the nation's wealth. Everything but air and sunlight must be brought to him by his own labor or that of others. Every created necessity of man has been produced by the union of capital and labor. It must be clear, then, to the rational mind that these two factors of man's happiness and comfort should be thoroughly regulated by a benevolent government.

"The interest of both finds its chief support in a mutual understanding and accord. These two factors of the world's wealth are thus mutually dependent and should cooperate harmoniously in their respective fields of usefulness. What can capital accomplish without labor or labor without capital?"

This question brought an intensive stir from the audience until the speaker went on to explain, "Capital is only theh dead instrument in the hands of vital creative energy. It is the produce of jast labor. By itself it is as dead and useless as the carpenter's hammer on the ground beside him.

"It must be impelled by the brain and brawn of man to fulfill its true function. So is it with capital, it must be employed and directed by the vital energy of the brain and brawn of man before it can enter into the creation of the nation's wealth.

Labor Deserves More Proceeds

"Raesonably," Mr. Scott continued, "and dispassionately considered, labor is entitled to more of the proceeds of industry than capital. It is just and right to conclude that after various expenses of the busy industry have been deducted, capital should be satisfied with a reasonable interest and all the rest of the profits should go to the vital energy which created them. This contention appears to be indubitable. In this way each factor of wealth would receive its proper share of the profits of industry and mutual harmony be encouraged and perfected."

Displaying flexibility and liberality in his contentions, Mr. Scott stated, "capital and labor must approach each other in the spirit of justice and forebearance. For capital to pauperize labor is to destroy its constant and inseparable companion. For labor to destroy industry by forcing it to pay ruinous wages is to destroy its only hope—to murder its best friend."

Mr. Scott set out the purposes of the Wagner act, expressed a desire for peace and harmony between the two major labor organizations. He said, "we are all laborers, working for a common cause, and until jealousies and false accusations are exterminated within labor circles itself, our efforts and hopes are in vain."

He concluded his brilliant address with a charge to the government: "Thus, one of the most important duties of government is to bring about through broad and liberal education and wise legislation a recognition of the mutual dependence and interests of the two principal forces of civilization—capital and labor"

Longshore Head Raps N. A. A. C. P.

NEW ORLEANS.—(ANP) Threatening to withdraw the membership support of the International Longshoremen's Association from the NAACP because John L. Lewis, CIO leader, wa invited to speak at its national convention, Paul Hortman, vice president of the ILA, and AF of L affiliate, sole Negro member on the Louisiana State Federation of Labor and generalissimo of the water - front workers in this section, charged the NAACP as being partial to the CIO.

Hortman, after reading a reply letter from the NAACP's national office, stated that "our organization will only support organizations that are either favorable to the AF of L or neutral."

He said the letter set out to compare what the CIO had done for the Negro in fostering its movement as against what the AF of L had not done.

RAID NETS 4 UNION MEN

Amsterdam News

Treatment of Negroes in Closed Shops Cited By Officials

8-10-40

NATCHITOCHES, La.—New Orleans Negroes were jailed here last week during a Farmers' Union meeting. The quartet came to Natchitoches from New Orleans to attend and aid in the organization of a Farmers' union in this city. Included in the group jailed was Willie Dorsey, president of the International Warehousemen's union, a CIO affiliate, and Ernest Wright, New Orleans newspaper man civic organizer.

New York

Treatment of Negro tenant farmers and sharecroppers have been very bad in this section, and efforts are being made to stimulate interest in their own behalf through the formation of a cooperative Farmers' union.

Police and city officials in an attempt to discourage the venture ordered Dorsey and his associates jailed for "holding a meeting without a permit."

Efforts in New Orleans to effect their release were finally consummated after several days of legal bickering. The group was released and immediately returned to New Orleans.

Miss Margery Dallet of the State Farmers' union said that efforts to organize the farmers around Natchitoches would be continued, and that she was confident effective results would be gotten therefrom.

Jail 4 As La. Farmers Convene To Protest 'Starvation Wage' System

Defender
Chicago, Ill.
SEP 28 1940

By RICHARD H. THOMAS

NATCHITOCHES, La. — A statue proudly exhibited on the main street of this little town of an old Negro with that tipped, head bowing and a graceful bend on the body, ever stands as a warning to the Race members "to stay in their places."

Last week tenant farmers and sharecropper members of the Louisiana Farmers' Union failed to heed that warning and serious results a possible lynching, was narrowly escaped.

When it was first announced several weeks ago that an educational meeting would be held Race landlords attempted to freeze them out of every available meeting place. Scott A. Lewis, grand master and custodian of the Masonic hall, the only privately owned hall in the town, was told by certain landlords not to rent the place. But Clinton Clark, parish organizer, went ahead with plans at the assistance of acting secretary, Margery Dallet.

Last Saturday Clark and six others were arrested and held incommunicado as they attempted to attend the meeting. According to some of those held, they were all threatened and confined for four days. Clark is still being held.

It is known that for a long time Clark has been on the "spot" for his activities among the farmers who have long suffered at the hands of landlords. It is reported that prominent Race farmers in the Parish, who were on the "inside" warned Clark sometime ago that all they needed was one more thing to get him.

Exposed Conditions

In February, Clark represented this state at a conference with Mrs F. D. Roosevelt and AAA administrator Walter Randolph in Washington. It was in this meeting that Clark sought to have AAA benefit checks sent direct to sharecroppers instead of landlords. He pictured the plight of many sharecroppers, and tenants supposed to get these checks, but never saw them.

A grim state of woe is the unchanging picture of the poverty-stricken Race sharecroppers who work year in and year out to the same end. They are plagued with debts claimed by the landowners, ravished by exorbitant prices they must pay for food from the commissary stores, from which they must buy, and exploited of their share of AAA checks they receive for staying within the crop reduction quota and soil conservation.

Each year, examples of forced signing of AAA checks by farmers to landlords are bared, to no avail. During the past year, a sharecropper was forced to sign his benefit check to a commissary owner at the point of a knife, in the office of the Parish AAA supervisor. Where Negroes fail to heed the warning of the symbol that stands ever on the main street, he is turned out into the road—evicted!

Farm Leader Tells How He Organized Louisiana Tenants and Went to Jail

The Call
Kansas City, Missouri
SEP 27 1940

WASHINGTON.—(ANP)—Persecuted and prosecuted, stalwart Negroes of the South march steadily forward, despite the handicaps ignorant white southerners place in their path.

Down in Louisiana, Clinton Clark, who has seen many bitter days because of his efforts to organize his people into cooperative buying and the elimination of the famous commissaries which have bled the poor Negroes to death economically, has just been released from jail for his part in trying to organize Negro farmers.

Under the auspices of the Farmers Educational Cooperative association, which has offices in larger cities in the country and specializes in the organization of white and colored farmers only, in order to aid them in purchasing food, clothing and farm supplies, Clark has been instrumental in organizing some 3,500 Negro families into units which buy cooperatively.

As a result of his work in Louisiana, particularly in the town and parish of Natchitoches, Clark was seized and thrown into jail on charges of receiving money under false pretenses, Said Mr. Clark:

"Down on the plantations, when men and women get to be 50 years old and over, they are thrown off the plantation and have no money nor food or anything. They go to the relief bureaus to try to get help and WPA jobs, but the relief bureaus refuse to investigate their cases and they are left with nothing at all.

SEP 27 1940

Told To Write Letters

"I told them to write to Washington and they did. And when the letters started coming back, the relief people got mad and said 'we know how to run our business down here without the people in Washington trying to tell us what to do.' And then when they asked one old man who wrote his letter, since he couldn't write, he told them I did.

"Then they came and arrested me and put me in jail where they held me for six days without telling me why they were holding me. Finally they talked with a government investigator, who told them they did not have enough to hold me on and they had to turn me loose. They then took me to the state line and turned me loose after making me sign a paper that I wouldn't return to Louisiana.

Advertised Meeting

"The trouble started when I advertised that I was to hold a meeting in the town for the whole parish of Natchitoches. First, I tried to get a school, but they wouldn't let me have the school, for the farmers said they paid taxes on the school and I wasn't supposed to use those buildings. Then I tried to get a hall, and they told me the white folks would burn down the hall if the colored owner let me have it.

"Then I succeeded in getting a Baptist church. So I went to the mayor of the town and told him what I planned to do and he said the meeting was all right and to go ahead with it after I showed him all of the papers and things I had to work with. But when the mob of farmers who were sore at me came in and alked with the mayor, he refused to let me have the church. He even told me it was best for me to get out of town.

"None of the mob knew me, but they knew my name and as soon as they had identified me and taken me in to the jail they went back to the crowd that had gathered at the church and told them to go ahead with their meeting, it was all right

Terrorized Farmers

"Landlords started terrorizing the workers on the farms saying that they were listening to some 'smart nigger from up north who was fixing to get himself killed.'

"I was told in the jail that I was going to be strung up and that I wouldn't live three days for the work I had done and that the landlords were organizing against me, just as I was organizing against them.

"Some of the landlords who were there were in favor of what I was doing and most of the farmers were. One of them testified that he had been saving $5 a ton in the cost of the fertilizer of his farm and he saw nothing harmful in what I was doing.

"At first, we met in back rooms and then in schools and churches to do our planning and buying, until we got enough money to build our first store, of which we are very proud.

SEP 27 1940

Intend To Continue

"We intend going on with our movement which has gotten support in all of the southern states and has spread now until it is operating in 38 states."

Accusing Clark and his followers of being "fifth columnists," opponents sought to have him arrested by the federal government on trumped up charges of agitating against the government. When these failed, other measures, threats and jailing, took their place.

Mr. Clark was in Washington for a conference with other officials of his organization and to talk with administrators of the AAA and the FSA with reference to the furtherance of the cooperative buying movement in the states where the Farmers union operates.

NEW ORLEANS UNION IS SHORT OF THOUSANDS

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

Nine Heads of All-Negro Longshoremen's Unit Ousted; Secret "Payroll" Uncovered

OCT 31 1940

NEW ORLEANS—(ANP)—A gigantic scandal uncovered by the federal government in the affairs of this city's biggest labor union, the all-Negro International Longshoremen's Association, an A. F. of L. affiliate, has resulted in the ousting of nine key officials as investigators and a union committee seek to learn what happened to $200,000 that should be in the treasury but isn't.

This $200,000 shortage extends over a period of six years and part of it has already been traced to a "secret, cash only" payroll, according to investigators who promise many startling revelations this week as they piece together the financial trickery which led to governmental intervention.

Eight officials "quit" recently. They were Paul Horman, president; Sheppard Alexander, financial secretary; Wilfred Hayes, recording secretary; Preston Archie, treasurer; Edward Johnson, chairman of the checkoff collection committee; Arthur Williams, chairman of the relief committee, and James Boatner Van B. Carter, member of the finance committee. Robert Willis, vice president, and Finance Chairman Clarence Collins refusel to resign and were put out

ROBERTSON OUSTED

The ninth person to go was A. D. Robertson, a delegate, who was made a member of the new committee in charge of union affairs after the discrepancies were found. He was believed slated to succeed Hortman as president But when the secret payroll was discovered, the name of Robertson was allegedly down for a bigger monthly "take" than the president got. He was immediately ousted.

Hortman's salary, as president of the union, was $75 weekly and he was listed as getting another $80 monthly on the secret payroll. Robertson drew $30 weekly as delegate but his secret pay was chalked up as $100 monthly additional.

It was in September that union members became curious about finances. They had watched Hortman become an influential citizen in recent years, acquiring among other things two well equipped modern barber shops These "rank and file" members appointed a committee which came back with a report showing only $3,000 in the treasurary. Charges were filed with the National Labor Relations Board.

FILE CHARGES

The National Labor Relations act prevents one worker from filing charges against another. However, an employe can charge an employer with "unfair labor practices" so the longshoremen filed charges against the more than 20 companies here employing such labor.

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These firms pay the unionists' dues through a system known as the "check off". Under the closed shop contract with the longshoremen, five percent of each worker's weekly wages is retained by the steamship companies and paid to the union officials as dues.

The longshoremen charged that the firms had not turned over to the union the full amounts collected through the check-off, but instead gave part of the funds to certain union officials although "knowing that these representatives were appropriating such monies for their personal use." These persons were allowed to keep this cash, it return for their services to the companies in undermining the union and weakening its bargaining position its relation with the company."

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An investigation was ordered by the labor board and the discrepancies came to light. Records were called for, and it was proved that the steamship firms had paid the check-off money to the union in good faith. Charges against the employers were then dropped.

$200,000 MISSING

The investigators found that approximately $480,000, or $80,000 yearly, had been paid by the companies to the union. But the union books told a different story. According to the books, only a sum in excess of $270,000 had been received. That meant that over $200,000 had been paid by the steamship companies that never found its way to the union treasury.

The secret payroll amounting to many thousands yearly was the first clue as to where part of the money had gone. All but one or two of the ousted officials were listed as getting regular "cuts" from this source in addition to regular salaries. Also listed was a preacher whose job was not disclosed; several persons who were paid to spread good will among the membership for the reigning officials, and a few trouble shooters who circulated among thet rank and file, learning if there was anything brewing that might be hostile to Hortman and his cohorts, and reporting back so that proper action could be taken. They were not union members.

It was also revealed that Robertson, the ousted delegate, was put on this secret payroll just after he charged he had been defeated as a candidate for president in 1936 by fradulent methods. After getting on this payroll, he never pressed his charges.

It is believed that still more secret payrolls will be discovered as investigators redouble their efforts to clean up the situation. District Attorney Cocke is also invesigating union affairs "in the interest of the public."

UNION TREASURY $200,000 SHORT; OUST KEY OFFICIALS

Investigation Reveals Treasury of New Orleans' Longshoremen's Union Is $200,000 Short Over Six-Year Period.

NOV 2 1940

NEW ORLEANS, La., Oct. 31.—Nine key officials of the all-Negro International Longshoremen's Association, largest labor union in New Orleans, were ousted this week following an investigation which revealed that approximately $200,000 is missing from the union's treasury.

Courier

The shortage extends over a period of six years. Part of the loss was traced to a "Secret Payroll."

It has been charged that Paul Hortman, president of the Union, received a salary amounting to $75 weekly and was receiving $80 monthly from the "Secret Payroll."

Pittsburgh

Investigation reports claim that steamship companies, who collect dues for the union, turned over approximately $480,000 in six years, but only $270,000 of that money was in the treasury.

District Attorney Cooke has joined in the investigation "in the interest of the public."

Seattle Voice

Office and Professional Workers Union, an affiliate of the C. I. O., containing charges against Mr. LaFourche. The union is attempting to organize the employees of the Unity, Douglass, and Louisiana Life Insurance Companies. The Unity insurance company is controlled by whites. The other companies are owned and controlled by Negroes. A fourth company, the Good Citizen Mutual, also owned by Negroes has agreed to negotiate with the employees through the union.

According to the C. I. O. union, Mr. LaFourche, who is public relations counsel for the regional conference of southern NAACP branches in Louisiana, "is seeking to break the solid ranks of these workers on behalf of the management of the insurance companies and is making efforts to build a company union"

La. NAACP Officer Rebuked for Opposing Organization of Labor

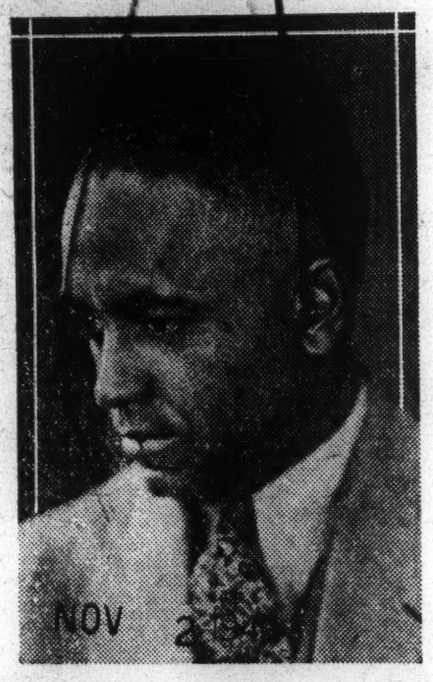
OCT 25 1940

New York—Reaffirming its full support of organized labor's right to bargain collectively, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored people condemned the actions of James LaFourche, a Louisiana official of the organizzation for his opposition to a strike involving Negro employees of three insurance firms in New Orleans.

Northwest Enterprise

The NAACP's position was set forth in a resolution passed unanimously by its board of directors at a meeting held here Monday, October 7, at the headquarters of the association at 69 Fifth Avenue. Passage of the resolution followed receipt of a letter from the United

$200,000 Missing From New Orleans ILA Treasury



Paul Hortman, President of Union; Charged With Receiving Pay From "Secret Payroll'

NEW ORLEANS, La.—A probe of the all-Negro International Longshoremen's Association, largest labor union in New Orleans, revealed this week that $200,000 is missing from the treasury and that Paul Hortman, president of the union, has been charged with having himself paid the sum of $80 per month from a "secret pyaroll" bsides his regular salary of $75 per week.

Mississippi News

Houston Informer

Nine key officials of the union have been ousted in the shake-up which has shocked the citizenry of New Orleans and resulted in an investigation being carried on by District Attorney Cook.

Texas

It was disclosed that over $480,000 has been turned into the treasury during the past sik years but only $270,000of the sum is now in the treasury.

Insurance Companies Hold Out Against Striking Agents In New Orleans Labor Fight

Agents Refuse to Disclose Their Complaint To Company Officials

Companies Not Bound By Wagner Act

By LEON LEWIS

NEW ORLEANS.—When more than 200 insurance agents of four local Negro companies walked out last week in a general strike because the company officials refused to negotiate with the agents' selected bargaining agent, the CIO, for increased wages and better working conditions, it was the first time in the history of labor that insurance companies have been so affected.

The Good Citizens Insurance company withdrew from the local insurance executives council and effected a compromise with the agents representative, the CIO. The other three, The Louisiana Industrial, the Douglas and the Unity, refused to bargain with any union relative to working conditions of their respective agents, and have placed a definite stamp of rejection upon the hopes for bargaining in this direction.

SEP 23 1940

These three companies have replaced the striking agents and have called in their field representatives to carry on the business. Special notices have been directed to policy holders informing them of the decision of the executives and warning that the premiums will have to be made as required in the insurance contracts, but only to the newly hired agents or at the company's offices.

At the outset of the strike the company officials asked the agents what their desires were. The agents refused to disclose this, informing the officials that negotiation would have to go through the CIO, their selected bargaining agent. Hundreds of dollars are being spent to force the claims of both agents and companies. A flare of violence broke out when several of the "scab" agents were beaten by the strikers.

The psychological factors behind the strike situation are far-reaching in its general effect upon Negro business, particularly insurance. White company agents are taking advantage of the situation to resell many of the Negroes insurance upon the grounds that the stability of Negro insurance is endangered by the strike. The Louisiana published a pamphlet disclosing that many of the striking agents had earned incomes last year in excess to salaries paid to school teachers. Twelve of these salaries ranged from $1,100 to $1,600 per year. They also state their agents work on the average of less than six hours per day. Insurance companies are not bound by provisions of the Wagner act, and therefore do not have to negotiate with a labor union that might represent its agents.

Company officials state they will negotiate with the agents themselves and can assure that any reasonable demand will be met.

Release Negro Farm Leader in Louisiana

SEP 21 1940

WASHINGTON. — (CNA)—An attempt lynch frame-up of Clinton Clark, Negro organizer of the Louisiana Farmers' Union, has been thwarted, the National Federation for Constitutional Liberties announced here this week.

Clark, who was threatened with lynching after his arrest in Natchitoches Parish July 27, has been released and given safe conduct across the border to Texas.

Ten charges were placed against him alleging that he had collected funds for the union under false pretenses. He was an accredited officer of the union and empowered to collect dues for the union. Officials of the union declared that Clark's record was clear and that the real reason for his arrest was that he had been successful in organizing the impoverished farmers of Natchitoches Parish.

The Federation was informed the next day of a report from the Attorney General's office in La. that Clark had been released on personal bond and taken safely to Texas.

Upon hearing of Clark's release the Federation declared that its "success in this case is new evidence of the value of an organization which can coordinate the activities of farm, church, labor, racial, fraternal and civic groups in defense of civil liberties in the United States."

The release of Clark is regarded as a tremendous victory not only for the farmers of Louisiana but for farmers throughout the South who are now being subjected to an unprecedented wave of violence and intimidation.

INSURANCE AGENTS AT NEW ORLEANS STILL ON STRIKE

Independent Union May Be Formed

NEW ORLEANS, La.—Despite the Negro insurance agents' strike here for the past two weeks invilving three of the city's leading Negro Insurance companies, no settlement was indicated this week from statements made by the insurance executives. Those contacted expressed their willingness to negotiate with their agents but "not the CIO. Our differences are with our agents—if they leave out the CIO."

SEP 28 1940

The companies involved are the Unity Industrial Life Insurance company, Douglas Life Insurance company and the Louisiana Industrial Insurance company.

The dispute came about when agents of these companies affiliated with the United Office and Professional Workers of America, a CIO union. The agents claim their action was taken to secure better wages and working conditions. After the company refused their demands the agents were advised by their union to strike.

Big Mass Meeting Held

It is reported that a large mass meeting was held at the Shakespeare Park with Ernest J. Wright, U. O. P. W. A. organizer, acting as chairman. Several union speakers and Negro sympathizers including Raymond Tillman of the Negro Youth Congress addressed the gathering. The meeting was ignored by company officials.

Independent Union May Be Formed

Although Mr. Wright stated that the CIO union had filed charges against the companies and had been supoenaed to appear before the State Labor board on the grounds of "Neglecting to pay a minimum interest of four per cent on the bonds of their agents," reports are that attempts were being made to organize an independent agents' union under the direction of James B. Lafourche. The union said it would continue its demands for recognition.

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INSURANCE MEN IN NEW ORLEANS STILL ON STRIKE

Executives Willing To Negotiate if Agents Shelve CIO

OCT 5 1940

NEW ORLEANS, La.—Despite the Negro insurance agents' strike here for the past two weeks involving three of the city's leading Negro insurance companies, no

Insurance Strike Leaders Arrested

OCT 12 1940

By LEON LEWIS

NEW ORLEANS. —(ANP)— Ernest Wright, militant organizer of the Insurance Agents' Union, and circulation manager of the Sentinel, and the Rev. Jake L. Spears, president of the agents' union, were apprehended by police last week on serious charges. Spears was charged with forgery of insurance claims amounting to $30 and embezzlement. Wright was charged with tampering with a state witness with intent to impede justice. Both were released on bond.

Spears, an insurance agent for the Louisiana Industrial Life Insudance Company, was accused by Mrs. Elvina Payton, a policyholder of the Louisiana company since 1921, of having forged her name to sick claims of June 24, July 15, June 22, August 21 and August 29 of this year, embezzling the total sum of $30 from the company on forged signatures, and of taking $2.50 of a $5 claim in April.

Five days after Spears left the employ of the Louisiana in a walkout strike, he paid the full amount of $32.50 to Mrs. Payton. This was on Sept. 12.

Reporting to the company office the delay in paying her claims, it was revealed that the company had paid claims on schedule to agent Spears.

Faced with charges of forgery and embezzlement to be added to three former charges against him some years ago (two of disturbing the peace and one of gambling with dice for money), Spears brought his CIO cohort, Ernest Wright, circulation manager of the New Orleans Sentinel, into the case. Wright is charged with having attempted to intimidate Mrs. Payton to drop charges against Spears.

Upon reporting this to the authorities, Wright was picked up at his home on Belmont street. Both men were released.

The fired striking agents of the Louisiana, Douglas and Unity are still picketing under the CIO banner as the companies continue to hold out against "union control of Negro business." Policy-holders continue to keep up their insurance premiums to protect their investments. Striking agents are reported weakening; Many are attempting to get back with the companies.

New Orleans Insurance Collectors Strike Ends

OCT 26 1940

NEW ORLEANS. — The pressure strike, waged against several Race insurance companies came to a technical end this week when the district attorney ordered the agents to turn in their debit books and be checked out from the companies.

The agents of the Louisiana Industrial Life Insurance company confiscated the debit books when they walked out six weeks ago, because the officials would not submit to demands of the CIO for negotiation as bargaining agent for the agents.

The district attorney's order followed several other legal rulings in favor of the companies, including a decision by State judicial Court Judge Womack, that the companies "were not compelled to accept a labor union as bargaining agent for its employees."

Before and following this ruling violence flared when several agents replacing the strikers were beaten by CIO "goons." Police stepped in to check this with arrests of six of the "goons," including the president and organizer of the CIO union.

Dislike Methods

Officials of the companies gave as their principal objection to the contract which the CIO attempted to force upon them as being "too dictatorial." The contract would subject selection, firing and classification of agents to the discretion of CIO officials. Without knowledge of actural science as it applies to Insurance companies the union would be the deciding factor in commission percentages and annual increase required of agents. All in all it would subject the running of Negro Insurance companies to CIO dictatorship.

OCT 26 1940

Promise Fairness

Expressing the decision of the Louisiana Insurance officials, Dr. Rivers Frederick, president stated, "in checking these agents from our employ, we hold no malice and will give them fair and honest consideration. Nothing will be deducted from their cash bonds except actual financial deduction. And further, we will accept their applications for future employment.

We are indeed sorry that the strike had to happen and we are more sorry that some of our best agents were misled by the CIO to their lost of good jobs. Our interest and efforts in this venture were directed for the best interest of our policyholders, employees and Negro business. We won, and wish to express gratitude to the loyal policyholders, the press and the public for their support."

LABOR- 1940
UNIONS, STRIKES, ETC.

MARTIN DIES

EDGAR HOOVER, DIES BLASTED IN PARLEY HERE

Welfare Meet Speaker Describes FBI Chief as 'Night Club Cop'

By NELLIE KENYON

Martin Dies and Joe Starnes, Alabama congressmen, "will be retired from public life" when the poll tax is removed as a prerequisite to vote, Malcolm Cotton Dobbs said Sunday afternoon at the conference of the Council of Young Southerners, of which he is secretary.

Dobbs assailed J. Edgar Hoover, of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, declaring that Westbrook Peglar had aptly characterized Hoover as a "night-club fly-cop." He called on those present to insist that "G-men stick to the task of uprooting political corruption and eradicating kidnaping, and if they must go further let them investigate the K. K. K. and the other respective organizations which are tearing down our American institutions," said Dobbs. He asked delegates to support the Geyer anti-polltax bill.

Dobbs got a little mixed up in his speech and several times referred to Hoover with the Department of Justice, and once when he was referring to Boss Crump placed him in Nashville instead of his Memphis stronghold.

Other speakers at the afternoon session of the young people, which was in reality a preliminary to the opening of the conference, included Marjory Dallet, editor of the Louisiana Union Farmer, official publication of the Louisiana Farmers' Union, and Ragni Patel, of the Indian National ConGress, from Bombay, who kept referring to "Herr Chamberlain" of England "in the same breath with "Herr Hitler" of Germany, declaring there was little difference in their tactics. He called on America to remain out of the present conflict, stating he did not think this country would be deceived thi stime by British propaganda.

'NEW SOUTH' THEME

Much was heard about "a New South" at the youth meeting and later at the main opening session of the Southern Conference for Human Welfare Sunday night.

"We are here to celebrate a new South that is being born," said Dr. John B. Thompson, director of the Presbyterian Foundation, University of Oklahoma, and a member of the faculty of the University School of Religion.

He referred to the South's old-time, silver-tongued speaker of two generations ago, Henry Grady, and his favorite orator on "The New South," declaring that Grady painted a romantic—a nostalgic picture of the South.

Of religion, he said it "has taken many forms in the South. It has sometimes provided the magic which masters used in exploiting slaves, or used as an opiate for them. . . . Like power, it can be used in tragic or in useful ways," he said. He defined true religion as that in which man believes in the common people —"in the dignity of the poorest man in the world—the kind you saw in Maw Joad in 'Grapes of Wrath'—the kind of philosophy which Sandburg put into his great poem, 'The People, Yes.'"

NAZIS, REDS HIT

Dr. Mordecai Johnson, president of Howard University, of Washington, D. C., was another of the principal speakers at the conference's opening session. Dr. Johnson spoke with deep feeling as he referred to his slave-father, and then launched into his philosophy of religion, declaring that the present turmoil in Nazi Germany and "Red" Russia is caused largely by efforts to overthrow religion.

He drew himself up on his toes, threw his broad shoulders back and spoke through the mike in a clear, convincing tone.

"One of the most necessary things in the South—in the world—today," said Dr. Johnson, "is that man shall engage in ordinary thought as to the true meaning of religion."

He felt that everything in life points to religion, man's politics, industry, agriculture, and his everyday living. Several times he referred to Thomas Jefferson's statement that all men were created equal, declaring in simple, understanding words that "means the governor's child, the child of the poor white trash, and the child of the black man."

Other speakers at the night session included Dr. Frank Porter Graham, president of the University of North Carolina and chairman of the conference, opened the session and turned the program over to Dr. F. D. Patterson, president of Tuskegee Institute.

DISCORDANT NOTE

W. R. Couch, director of the University of North Carolina press, threw the first note of disturbance into the conference Sunday night when he opposed the adoption of conference rules as proposed by the rules committee.

Couch maintained that should the conference stick exclusively to problems of the South as had been proposed by a delegate, John Wilson, of Roba, Va., that the conference would not be free to condemn Russia and Germany for their "aggressive military tactics."

The oral duel came around midnight when conferees were pretty weary of a full day of meetings. At one time in the debate Wilson attempted to push Couch away from the "mike," but delegates interfered and the meeting proceeded with no further trouble with a statement from Dr. Graham that in his opinion the conference should be free to take such action as it saw fit.

Interracial Group Raps Martin Dies

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., May 3—The first All-Baptist Training Conference, representing 30,000 Baptists, which met at Mt. Zion Baptist church from April 22 to 26, through its findings committee proposed a permanent organization.

Under the chairmanship of Rev. J. A. Hall, the committee on findings blasted Martin Dies and reported the following resolutions: "That we are opposed to all types of un-American activities, and request particular action in the matter of discrimination at the polls and suggest that the investigatilon begin in Orange County, Texas." Orange is the home of Dies.

"That we deplore the action of the president of the United States in appointing an ambassador to the Vatican. This action of the president cannot be judged to be the representative voice of the American people. Independent Protestant groups agree that such action violates the concept of separation of church and state and the Constitution of the United States."

An expression of gratitude to the American Baptist Home Mission Society for making the conference possible, and to Dean H. M. Smith and Dr. John W. Thomas for personal assistance, was included in the resolutions.

Rev, J. T. Highbaugh was chairman of the conference, and Rev. R. T. Andrews is pastor of the host church. The conference, interracial in nature, was addressed by Dean H. M. Smith of the Chicago Baptist institute.

DIES COMMITTEE IS ATTACKED BY NOTABLE LEADERS

Justice Frankfurter Signs Protest Against Texas "Witch Hunter"

WASHINGTON, May 3 (CNA)—One hundred and forty-eight of the nation's most outstanding educators, churchmen, scientists and civic leaders sharply assailed the Dies Committee this week and called upon Attorney General Jackson to institute an immediate investigation of constitutional violations by the Texan's Committee.

The protest, made public by the National Emergency Conference for Democratic Rights and the Greater New York Conference for Inalienable Rights, declared that the Dies Committee constitute "a threatening menace to the most sacred principles of our constitutional liberties."

Citing recent Dies' raids upon workers organizations in Philadelphia, Baltimore, Los Angeles, El Paso, Birmingham and Washington, D. C., the educators emphasized that not to take a stand against "this conspiracy to violate the Bill of Rights," would be putting the seal of approval on contemplated defiance of the basic law of the country by a body sworn to uphold them.

"We speak as American citizens profoundly disturbed to find a Congressional committee violating the Constitution of the U. S." the signers declared.

Among those signing the protest were Supreme Court Justice Felix Frankfurter, Prof. Irvin Fisher of Yale University, Prof. Harold C. Urey, Noble Prize winner, Dr. Franz Boas of Columbia University, Dr. Mary E. Wolley of Mt. Holyoke College and Dr. Henry Smith Leiper, foreign secretary of the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America.

The Constitution or Martin Dies?

4-12-40 Daily Worker New York N.Y.

Martin Dies is trying to replace the Constitution with his own Ku Klux lawlessness.

He bellowed the fantastic lie yesterday that "Communists were engaged in 'espionage, sabotage,' and other such crimes. (No libel against those who fight for the peace and welfare of the people can be so low that the "fair and impartial" capitalist press will not print it. So the newspapers opened their columns wide to this one.)

This latest slander by Dies is illegal, without a semblance of authority either in law or in fact. Thus far no Congressional Committee or any other governmental agency has dared usurp such power. With all the inquisition methods of Congressional witch-hunts, none has so brazenly treated the laws of the land as if they're chaff in the wind.

The Communist Party is a perfectly legal organization. If Dies can utter his unlawful filth against the Communists, how long will it be before he does the same against trade unions and other organizations of the American people? How long will it be before he tries to scrap the Bill of Rights for other democratic persons? It is well to recall that in his Madison Square Garden speech several months ago, he classed as "subversive and collectivists" all those who believed in WPA or other government aid for 12 million jobless Americans who are poor and needy through no fault of their own.

Dies' Klan lawlessness, his raids against the Communists are typical of his vicious contempt for all constitutional liberties. Protests are already beginning to swell against him throughout the country. But it will take far more—especially from the trade unions—if Dies is not to strike down the very heart of the Bill of Rights.

Marcantonio Challenges Dies To Probe Klan

Witch-Hunter Informs Congress of Impending Move to Outlaw C.P.

By Adam Lapin

(Daily Worker Washington Bureau)

Daily Worker 4-11-40 New York N.Y.

WASHINGTON, April 10.—Rep. Vito Marcantonio of New York challenged the Dies Committee to investigate the Ku Klux Klan if it is really interested in un-American activities.

The New York laborite hurled this challenge at the committee after Rep. Dies and various defenders of his activities revealed that they intend to propose repressive legislation aimed at the Communist Party and other progressive organizations within the very near future.

Dies had bitterly attacked all critics of the committee as persons attempting to create "a false impression," and denied that the committee has refused to investigate the Klan.

Marcantonio asked if the committee is a "sacred cow" that cannot be criticized.

Taking up the Klan issue, he added:

"The gentleman from Texas is on the floor now. Let him tell us whether there will be an investigation of the Ku Klux Klan."

Rep. Dies refused to meet the challenge, and did not answer this question.

Daily Worker 4-11-40

In a long speech, Dies showed that his committee is seriously worried by the slaps it has received from judges in Philadelphia and Washington for its flagrant violations of civil liberties.

"Whether or not the courts will sustain us in this attempt to get information is a very vital matter," he said.

He revealed, however, that the committee is preparing a drive to enact repressive legislation in an effort to offset the reverses it has suffered in the courts.

Rep. Hamilton Fish asked the committee to come before the House with immediate legislation hitting at the Communist Party.

"Let's stop simply abusing the committee and act to outlaw the Communist Party," he declared.

VOORHIS WRITES BILL

Rep. Dies replied that the committee is "preparing legislation which we will bring in at the earliest possible date."

He told the House that Rep. Jerry Voorhis, who likes to describe himself as a liberal New Dealer, has been appointed as a committee of one to consult with the Departments of Justice and State in the working out of this legislation.

Voorhis has already introduced a bill which would require all organizations with any alleged foreign "connections" to register detailed statements with the State Department.

This measure has been vigorously backed by Rep. Dies who has been thinking of introducing a bill of his own along the same lines.

Assignment of Voorhis to take over the task of working out legislation is an interesting indication of the complete harmony in the committee between the so-called New Dealers and the outright anti-labor reactionaries.

CELLER'S MILD REBUKE

Vigorous applause both by Democrats and Republicans when Dies spoke indicated that the committee has considerable support in the predominantly Tory House, and that it will be in a strong position to jam through its proposed legislation.

Dies rose to his feet to reply to an exceedingly mild criticism of the committee yesterday by Rep. Emanuel Celler of New York who inserted in the Congressional Record a letter from Professor Franz Boas, noted educator, protesting against the committee's projected investigation of text books.

Celler had added that he "must inveigh against any possible efforts of the Dies Committee to throttle or curb the opinions or views of educators."

In a brief speech today, Celler partially apologized by stating that the Dies Committee has done "a great deal of good," but added that "there is a limit beyond which this committee shall not go in regard to civil liberties and illegal seizure."

MUNCHAUSEN FIGURES

One of the most interesting phases of the speech delivered by Dies was an attempt to build up the membership of the Communist Party to astronomical proportions.

He said that the testimony of Earl Browder to the effect that the Party has 100,000 is a "deliberate falsehood."

Dies actually declared that he has "reliable information" that the membership of the Communist Party "in the State of Pennsylvania alone is 125,000 members."

A few days ago Dies estimated Party membership at 2,000,000, and his statistical speculation today indicated that he intends to hold to this figure.

Observers here are considerably alarmed by these statements because they indicate plainly that Dies intends to go far beyond the limited membership of the Communist Party in an attack on hundreds of thousands of non-Communist progressives and trade unionists.

Another significant point in Dies' speech was a vigorous attack on the Republic of Mexico which appeared to foreshadow a demand for American intervention there.

Assailing Mexico for permitting a few thousand Spanish refugees to settle there, Dies said:

"We further know that in recent months the Republic of Mexico has permitted thousands of Communists from Spain and France to

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MARTIN DIES

SAN ANTONIO MAYOR ALSO RAPS MARTIN DIES IN D. C. SPEECH

WASHINGTON, March 14. (ANP)—Maury Maverick, mayor of San Antonio, former member of Congress from Texas and regarded by many as one of the liberals of the Southwest, was guest speaker at a meeting sponsored by the Descendants of the American Revolution, Tuesday evening and promptly assailed some of the old stand-bys of America including the poll tax and economic liberty and labor.

Lashing at the pseudo-aristocrats of America, who gloat over their ancestry, Mr. Maverick, tracing the relatives of the former early settlers, now lived in disdain throughout the country, said:

KICKED AROUND, ABUSED JUST LIKE THE NEGRO

"Those blue eyes, those Nordic blondes, those cousins of yours and mine, have lost out and are forgotten in this country today. Strangely enough, many of these hungry people of old American stock—our cousins—have no fight left in them. In the South, they have strangled and exploited themselves in their hard and cruel lives by hammering on the Negro—by getting rid of their inhibitions through practising race superiority, but suffering economic degradation in the process.

For their pains, these white cousins of ours get exploited, disfranchised, kicked around, and abused just like the Negro. And in the North they are not much better off.

"Indeed, the slave owners of the South fought for liberty in the Civil War. Liberty for whom? For the Negroes, and for the non-slave-owning seven-eighth of the white population, known as the poor whites? No, they fought for liberty for themselves. And they led the poor whites to fight against their own liberty, just as a small reactionary minority has many of the common people fighting each other today."

MARTIN DIES COMES IN FOR A DRESSING DOWN

Throwing bitter sarcasm at Martin Dies, leader of the committee on-American activities, Mr. Maverick declared that there should be a continued fight against Communism and Fascism as well.

"Now about the poll tax," Mr. Maverick continued. 'Whether or not that is strictly a question of civil liberties, I don't know; but I discuss it under that heading. I do so because millions of citizens have been and are being deprived of their liberties by the imposition of a poll tax which they haven't the money to pay.

"The original idea of the poll tax might have been to exclude the Negro. But today it excludes the white man from the Democratic primaries; and more white men are excluded than there are Negroes in the South. By Supreme Court decision the Negro can not vote in the white man's primary, where elections are settled. Even omitting the Negro, we still have the disfranchisement of millions of white men.

"The so-called 'menace' of the Negro is continually thrust in the face of the poor white. He is assured that all is for white supremacy. And so the poor white either does not get to vote at all, or if he does, he does so with all the economic prejudices of the people who are exploiting him.

CLAIMS POLL TAX IS SOURCE OF CORRUPTION

"What then is the solution? It is that we have a minority of the North, tied in with a smaller minority of the South, controlling all of the South, and disfranchising a vast number of Southern citizens.

"The poll tax has always been a source of corruption. By it, the political machines stay in power; and by it, they can persecute anyone who legitimately tries to help voters to qualify.

"The poll tax ought to be abolished, and, if necessary, by Federal law."

Forced Out of AFL into CIO

BALTIMORE

Further complaints of unfair discrimination in the A.F. of L.'s craft unions were made to the AFRO, this week, by William West, former employment clerk for the Truck Drivers' and Helpers' Union, at 39 South Street, who announced that he has quit that union's ranks and joined forces with the CIO.

In his new capacity, Mr. West, who lives at 1331 Myrtle Avenue, is organizing a truck drivers local at the CIO headquarters 334 N. Gay Street, and states that he has signed up 560 men since July 9.

Working with Mr. West as organizers for the new union are Alvin Harris, 719 Central Avenue, and James Carter, 1009 S. Sharp Street.

Cites Toll of Prejudice

According to Mr. West, Locals 355 and 557 of the A.F. of L.'s Truck Drivers' Union, have approximately 1900 members, with about 40 per cent of these being colored, and the racial discrimination policy being enforced by that union's white officials made his position as employment clerk extremely embarrassing.

He stated further that, at the time the union was granted an A.F. of L. charter in 1934, there were 40 colored drivers doing long distance work, which pays considerably more money, and at present, racial discrimination has cut this number to two.

AF of L Not Wanted, Red Caps Declare

WASHINGTON

Recent charges that the American Federation of Labor it attempting to split the ranks of the red caps of the United States had its repercussions here this week when President S. R. Wright, of Local 606 of the United Transport Workers of Baltimore, said that A. J. McGhee, of Philadelphia, had approached Baltimore porters with regard to joining the A.F. of L.

"None of the Baltimore red caps are interested in the A.F. of L. and we are very anxious that that organization know it," Mr. Wright said.

Goes for All

"This goes for all the porters, those affiliated with the United Transport Workers and those who are non-union members," he added.

"All of the porters know that the A.F. of L. is a jim-crow organization, and its policies are extremely distasteful," he continued.

Mr. Wright said that Mr. McGhee was at one time a second vice-president of the United Transport Workers, during the days when it was known as the International Brotherhood of Red Caps.

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MASSACHUSETTS

INTER-RACIAL LABOR COM. CALLS LOCAL UNIONS IN CONF., MAY 12

Guardian 4-6-40

Local Labor Union—HD.

The United Inter-Racial Labor Committee of Boston, provisional committee, affiliated with the Colored Labor Committee of New York is sending out a call to all Greater Boston labor unions for a conference to be held in the Oval Room, Hotel Bradford, on Sunday, May 12 at 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Frank Crosswaith, chairman of the Labor Committee of New York will be the main speaker.

The purpose of this committee is clearly stated in the letter going out to local unions, which reads in part as follows:

"Dear Friends and Brothers: As part of the organized labor movement of this city, you are no doubt eager with us to bring to the black worker the wholesome message of trade unionism, and thus remove him beyond the reach of open shoppers seeking to undermine labor standards and disrupt organized labor and of those impatient and irresponsible elements which constantly seek to use black labor to advance their special interests. It is becoming increasingly clear to all, that if labor is to conserve the gains already made and add to them, the colored worker must become an integral part of the labor movement.

"The undersigned Committee representing the attached listed trade unions, constitute the provisional Boston committee affiliated with the Colored Labor Committee of New York. Our immediate task is to call a conference of bona-fide trade union delegates for the purpose of creating a permanent committee as an affiliate of the colored Labor Committee of New York.

"The proposed commitee will be composed of delegates, both white and colored, from local unions in the Greater Boston area. Such a committee can do a very valuable work in overcoming the anti-union propaganda being spread among colored workers, and in breaking down whatever objections to trade-unionism still existing among colored workers."

Among the signers of the letter are the following: Theophilus Nunes, International Longshoremen's Association; James Cannady, 3rd vice-president and N. E. Regional Director, United Transporation Service Employees; Chester Eaton, Dining Car Waiters; Josiah Gaynor, Gas and Coke Workers; L. D. Stone, president Sleeping Car Porters; Ellena Clark, Local 12, Boston Joint Board, ILGWU; Ruth Riley, Local 291, Cotton Dress Dep.t, ILGWU; Harry Grages, Secretary-Treas'r, Boston Central Labor Union; Jacob Blume, Manager, Boston Joint Board, Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America; Philip Kramer, Manager Boston Joint Board, Cloak Suit and Dressmakers' Union and vice-president International Ladies Garment Workers Union; Jacob Halper, N. E. Regional Director, Cotton Dress and Out-of-Town Department, ILGWU; Rose Norwood, president Laundry Workers and secretary Women's Trade Union League.

Ellena Clark is acting secretary of the Committee.

BULLETS FLY AS CAB STRIKE CONTINUES TO HOLD SPOTLIGHT

ST. LOUIS, April 18.—Bullets, fired at a taxicab, evidently led into a trap early Friday night, April 12, brought a new phase of activity into the strike between members of the Colored Taxicab Drivers' Association and Benjamin Austin, president of the Calumet and Careful Cab companies. The striking men deny any knowledge of the identity of the hidden sniper while the driver, Will Wade Outlaw, who escaped unscathed, told police that he couldn't identify his assailant.

Outlaw, one of the few man to desert the ranks of the strikers who left the wheels of their cabs on March 9, returned to work several days ago. He told police that a woman approached him at Jefferson and Franklin and told him that two friends wanted a cab at 2349 Carr street. She went on her way.

As he neared the Carr street address, Outlaw said, a man, hidden in a dark areaway, fired three shots at the cab, then ran out and fired two more times. Two of the bullets hit the rear door while another pierced the rear left fender, struck a tire, causing it to blow out. No one was injured.

Saturday, a number of suspects were rounded up.

Attorney Emanuel Williams, representing the strikers, says that he has cautioned all of the men against violence. In response to his appeals, they have intensified their peaceful picketing, placing pickets at the important boxes used by the companies. As yet, no cabs are to be seen on the street at night except for a few hours just after dark.

The strikers contend that President Austin still refuses to recognize their association and that is the one thing that they intend to stick out for. They assert that they can last as long as he and that the only way they will be able to be assured of a fair deal from Austin will be for him to be forced to deal with an organization that can effectively arbitrate with him for decent working conditions.

A hearing on an injunction sought by Austin against the strikers is scheduled to be held before Judge Eugene Padberg on Thursday, April 25.

Three Sets of Pickets At Enterprise Cleaning Plant

Above are shown members of the Colored Clerks Circle, Cleaners and Dyers Union of the A. F. L. and a company picket at the Enterprise cleaning plant, at 4229 W. Easton avenue. The Clerks Circle claims the plant has not hired Negro workers in proportion and declares they will not cross a labor union picket line and become scabs. The Enterprise officials say they have hired several Negroes and are fair.

NOT OPPOSED TO NEGROES IN CITY HALL'

Call 1-26-40

Perrin McElroy Says Labor Has No Objection To Janitors

Kansas City, Mo.

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — A report came to The Call this week that the city administration wants to employ Negro janitors at the city hall, but that organized labor objects.

Investigating this charge, The Call had an interview Wednesday with Perrin D. McElroy, secretary of the Building and Construction Trades' council, at Labor Temple, who said that the labor unions have made no such objection.

"We have no control over janitorial jobs at the City hall," he said, "as we do not have a single janitor in that building."

Negro Membership

Moreover, Mr. McElroy said, "Negroes hold membership in the Building Service Employes' union and are employed in large numbers as janitors, elevator operators, maintenance men and stationary engineers in many large buildings all over the city.

McElroy said that the janitor jobs at the City hall are "purely political" appointments and that the labor unions have nothing to do with them.

Want Jobs

"Whoever said that the labor unions were objecting to Negroes working as janitors in the City hall did not speak the truth," McElroy said.

Negro citizens are contending for a fair proportion of jobs at the City hall, both white-collar and labor jobs. So far since the new city administration went into office, no appointments of Negroes have been made.

Auto Parley Shows Great Growth in Negro Members

Daily Worker
8-6-40

50,000 Unorganized Negroes in Industry; Drive to Be Started

New York,

By William Allan

(Special to the Daily Worker)

ST. LOUIS, Aug. 5. — This fifth constitutional convention of the UAW - CIO that has reported phenomenal growth in membership since its 1939 Cleveland convention records an all-time high of 11,000 Negro workers as members.

Keen discussion prevails in the committees of the convention as to the big job of organizing the remaining 50,000 Negro workers still unorganized.

Negro delegates attending the convention today intimated that the newly elected officers will meet with the Negro delegation, when a joint plan will be discussed for a nationwide organizing drive that will have as its first point of concentration the 15,000 Negroes employed at Ford's.

Resolutions presented to the convention call for more Negro organizers, establishment of a large educational director, classes for Negroes, and popularization among the Negro people of the position of the CIO and its leader John L. Lewis at this vital question.

These points according to Negro delegates present here, are the highlights of the plan on organizing Negroes that will be considered by the incoming officers.

Chairman of the Negro delegation is Walter Hardin, now active in organizing Negro Ford workers, who spoke of the swing towards unionism now prevailing among the Negro people at Ford's.

While Hardin would not reveal the number of Negroes in the union at Ford's, it is a well-known fact that among the most active union organizers at Ford's are a large number of Negro workers.

FORD CHECKING UP

Hardin told the Daily Worker that Willis Ward, Negro athlete and now a Ford agent and employee, is making a survey of unionized plants where Negroes are employed.

The purpose of this, explained Hardin, is to find out the gains the Negroes have made under unionization. According to Hardin, the Ford outfit then intends to use the information as an attempted medium of showing that "in union plants Negroes are still discriminated against and that Ford is still the only place where Negroes can work for a good boss."

Nothing could be further from the truth, all of the Negro delegates declared. They pointed out that today in union shops, practically all of the old standards of work: first to be fired last to be hired; and the dirtiest jobs at lowest wages for Negroes, are a thing of the past.

Delegate James Walker from Local 205 told of the union conditions in the plant where he is shop chairman. Wages which formerly were at 40 cents an hour before the union was organized, today go up to and beyond $1 an hour.

Today practically all of the Negro delegates are attending this convention and speak from actual experience.

Vic Ford, delegate from Briggs Local 212, is responsible for bringing hundreds of Negroes into the union, making them active unionists. He was elected a delegate to this convention from his department which is composed of Negro and white workers.

"HELL HOLE"

Vic Ford is known as one of the best grievance settlers in the giant Mack Avenue plant of the Briggs Mfg. Corporation. The comparison, he said, between present conditions in Briggs and what it was before the UAW-CIO came, can best be explained by the name "hell-hole" given it by Negro and white both, when the plant was unorganized.

Today, instead of 40 cents an hour the Negro workers get 90 cents and up. A tall sturdy Executive Board member, J. Landfair of Local 208 said that at present he is fighting in his particular neighborhood back home against a vicious Ku Klux Klan movement to drive Negroes out of that neighborhood.

"The union taught me to organize my people and fight for our rights, and if I get in a tough spot, then a call for help to my local never has yet failed to bring help," he said.

SOLID FOR UNION

In his plant a strike recently took place, he related, hundreds of Negro and white workers participating in it. Landfair told the Daily Worker today that not a single Negro worker went into the plant to work till the union agreement was signed and sealed.

"That's my union," he said proudly.

Yes, they are proud of their union, these Negro unionists, but they are firmly determined that this convention will mark a greater stage of the organization of the unorganized Negro workers.

When asked about John L. Lewis and the CIO and what it meant to them, "that with the coming of the CIO the speeches of Lewis at the Negro Congress and the N.A.A.C.P. conventions, a great wave of interest has developed among the non-union Negroes."

Practically all the resolutions on the Negro question quote statements of Lewis showing the great appreciation that is felt for him and his leadership on this question.

Discrimination raised its ugly head at this convention at the Jefferson Hotel in St. Louis, where the convention is being held.

The attempt to keep the Negro delegates from eating in the main dining room was met with an angry indignation on the part of the entire assembly that quickly made short work of attempted Jim Crow.

Powerful resolutions against lynching, for the passage of the Geyer Poll tax bill, for organizing Negro women into the Women's Auxiliary's, show the integral part now played by Negro workers in this union which today is on record to completely unionize 50,000 more Negro auto workers by the next convention in 1941

NEGRO DELEGATES: A group of Negro delegates to the United Auto Workers Union convention are shown before a mural of CIO President John L. Lewis at Convention Hall in St. Louis.

Staunton Is Chosen As Site Of '41 Meeting

Journal Guide
Norfolk Va
9-6-40

H. H. Scott Again Named Head of Organization

Delegates attending the annual meeting of the Virginia State Branch of the National Association of Letter Carriers adjourned Sunday afternoon after they had selected Staunton, Va., as the place of the 1941 annual meeting, installed their officers, and held brief memorial services for their dead.

The sessions, which began on Saturday night at eight o'clock with a public welcome program, were held at the Booker T. Washington High School. In the absence of the president, Horace H. Scott of Richmond who was ill. L. N. Wells, vice president of Petersburg, presided at the business sessions. A banquet on Sunday afternoon at 1:30 which was attended by more than 200 persons, formally brought the annual meeting to an end.

Meeting simultaneously with the letter carriers were members of their women's auxiliary headed by Mrs. K. R. Brewington of Norfolk.

Approximately 115 delegates composed of both white and colored letter carriers were in attendance from Norfolk, Portsmouth, Newport News, Hampton, Richmond, Staunton, Petersburg, Portsmouth and other towns and cities in the state.

WELCOME SPEAKER

Speakers on the welcome program on Saturday night included, Postmaster R. W. Shultice, Prof. Winston Douglas, principal of the Booker T. Washington High School, who welcomed the body on behalf of the citizens of Norfolk; Mayor John A. Gurkins on behalf of the city; A. D. Dinkins on behalf of the local letter carriers' branch; R. J. Salisbury, for the Postal Alliance; and Mrs. Eva Tate on behalf of the Women's Auxiliary.

An appropriate response was made by J. W. Lee of Newport News.

Officers for the new fiscal year who were elected at the business meeting Sunday included: H. H. Scott, Richmond, president; L. N. Wells, Petersburg, vice president; O. F. Woodley, Norfolk, secretary, and C. C. Wyatt, Newport News, treasurer.

M. E. Diggs, secretary of the Norfolk Branch, was continued as delegate-at-large, and Moses F. Gibson of Portsmouth, C. H. Wilson, Sr. of Suffolk, and P. C. Shiry of Staunton, were reelected to membership on the executive board.

ENDORSE DEFENSE PROGRAM

Principal speaker at the concluding business session was Sol W. Berry of St. Louis, Mo., member of the executive board of the National Association of Letter Carriers.

Acting on a motion made by A. D. Dinkins, the body voted unanimously to go on record as endorsing the Administration's defense program.

The delegates paused in the midst of their deliberations on Sunday to pay tribute to the memory of members who died during the year. Eugene West of Norfolk presided over the brief memorial services in honor of the following deceased members: From Portsmouth —Lee N. Colthrop and J. H. Edwards. From Richmond—Joseph W. Collins, Oscar E. Butler, John D. Frazier and J. F. Wright. From Norfolk—W. C. Paige and Albert N. Carrington, both retired.

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SMITH COMMITTEE ASKS END OF NLRB; REVISED LABOR LAW

Times

House Group Recommends New 3-Man Board Shorn of Power to Prosecute

3-8-40

ADMINISTRATOR IS URGED

Newyork

Enforcement Powers to Rest in Him—Other Drastic Amendments Presented

Text of bill to amend the Wagner act is printed on Page 14.

By HENRY N. DORRIS

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

WASHINGTON, March 7—Amendments to the National Labor Relations Act providing drastic changes in the law, including abolition of the National Labor Relations Board and its replacement by a three-man agency divested of prosecution functions, were introduced today in the House by the Smith committee, which has been investigating the operations of the board.

No restrictions against the reappointment of the incumbent members were contained in the amendments, but the prosecution of unfair labor practices would be placed under a new officer, to be known as an administrator. The new board would act only in a judicial capacity.

This was only one of a number of proposed changes described by Representative Howard W. Smith, Democrat, of Virginia, chairman of the investigating committee, as designed to "meet pressing needs" for revamping the National Labor Relations Act and curbing the activities of the board. Mr. Smith emphasized that the committee's work was by no means complete. He said that it would offer "further amendments to the act and receive additional testimony concerning the act and the board and its employes and will develop several important phases of the resolution hitherto uncovered."

Committee Minority Dissents

The amendments were reported by a vote of 3 to 2. Representatives Charles A. Halleck of Indiana and Harry N. Routzohn of Ohio, Republicans, joined Chairman Smith in supporting the amendments. Two New Deal members, Representatives Arthur D. Healey of Massachusetts and Abe Murdock of Utah, filed a dissenting statement, calling the amendments "emasculatory" and asserting that they threatened the "principles, purposes and objectives" of the Wagner Act.

The bill containing the amendments was referred to the House Labor Committee, of which Representative Mary T. Norton of New Jersey is chairman. This committee in the past has been hostile to any changes in the Wagner Act.

Mrs. Norton said she would not comment on the amendments until she had time to study them. She said her committee would meet next Wednesday to consider whether to hold hearings on the bill. Mrs. Norton said in her opinion the Smith bill eventually would be defeated.

Mrs. Norton said she saw no reason why her committee should act until the final report of the Smith committee was filed.

Mr. Smith, in presenting the bill to the House, observed that his committee had split over the issues, and that it was "up to the House now" as to what should be done.

Earlier in the day, Mr. Smith at a press conference said it should be understood that the amendments were not designed to interfere with the rights of labor to collective bargaining, and that they were predicated upon the assumption that company-dominated unions were not to be recognized.

Leaders Study Bill

Mr. Smith said he did not know how the Administration stood on his amendments, although he conferred an hour with President Roosevelt, at the President's request, yesterday. No statement was forthcoming from Administration leaders in Congress, all preferring to study the bill before publicly stating their stand.

Considered among the important amendments was one conferring upon employers the right to demand an election when there are two competing unions in the same bargaining unit, in order to determine which shall be recognized. The granting of such elections at present is optional with the board. The amendment made no provision for a run-off election, but Mr. Smith said that "you should bear in mind the committee has not finished its work."

"Under the amendments, the board is precluded from acting in these cases on its own motion, and is permitted to act only upon application by an employer under specified circumstances, or upon application by a specified percentage of, or by a representative representing a specified percentage of, employes," the committee explained. "When such an application is made, the board is required to hold a hearing, and if as a result of the hearing it determines that the statements in the application are true and that the question is one affecting commerce, it is required by order first to determine the unit appropriate for collective bargaining. That unit can't be larger than the largest unit claimed as appropriate in an application filed by employes or representatives in the proceeding.

Employes Would Ballot

"After determining the unit appropriate for collective bargaining the board is required to take a secret ballot of employes in that unit and by order certify the representative or representatives for collective bargaining that have been chosen by a majority of the employes voting. This certification is to be effective for one year. Thus during this period both employes and employer will be freed from controversies with respect to employe representatives."

The divorce of prosecution powers from the board was designed to meet criticisms that the board had been "prosecutor, judge and executioner" in the past. The administrator, to be appointed by the President with the advice of the Senate, would receive $10,000 a year salary. He would have no connection with the board.

The administrator and his regional directors would receive complaints of unfair labor practices, make investigations and issue complaints. The board then would set a hearing date, not later than fifteen days after issuance of the complaint.

"It is hoped that this change will do away with the practice brought out in the hearing before the committee of fixing 'phoney' hearing dates for use as a lever to force a settlement," the committee statement said.

Orders of the board would be enforced in the courts upon application of the administrator and not upon application by the board, as at present.

The board, under the amendment, would cease being an advocate in appeal cases, this function being transferred to the administrator.

Changes also were made in the regulations covering subpoenas, to protect persons "from fishing expeditions." A person subpoenaed hereafter could appeal to the board to quash it, if in his opinion it required the production of records he did not think pertinent to the questions involved. Enforcement of subpoenas henchforward would be a matter for the courts.

Under the title "Freedom of Speech and of the Press" the committee majority recommended a clarifying amendment to Section 8 (1) of the act, to provide that "nothing therein is to be construed or interpreted as prohibiting any expressions of opinion on the part of the employe which may be of interest to employes or the public, provided that such expressions are not accompanied by acts or threats of discrimination, intimidation or coercion."

In the past the committee said questions have arisen under that section as to whether an employer was prohibited from expressing his opinion with respect to self-organization of employes and collective bargaining.

"Obviously," the committee said, 'no law of Congress can interfere with the freedom of speech or of the press guaranteed in the Bill of Rights."

The committee also recommended changes in the rules of evidence before the board, so that, "as far as practicable," hearings would be conducted in accordance with the rules of evidence applicable in United States District Courts.

Would Amend Rules of Evidence

Observing that rules of evidence prevailing in the courts were not controlling in board hearings, the committee said the practice had resulted in burdening the record with evidence, "as well as permitting the board to make findings based upon, and to draw inferences from, evidence which under the most liberal rules would never be admissible in a court of law."

Another important proposal would require the board to make decisions on the preponderance of the evidence, instead of on "substantial evidence."

The committee recommended that courts be permitted to overturn the board's findings of facts if they found that the board's determination was based upon erroneous evidence, or upon a lack of evidence. The board's finding of facts is conclusive at present.

A recommendation also was made that Section 1 of the act be changed to state that the failure to bargain collectively between employers and employes leads to strikes. The act at present states that the denial by employers of the right of employes to organize and that refusal by employers to accept the procedure of the collective bargaining leads to strikes.

The committee recommended that the declaration of policy of the act that it is the policy of the United States to encourage the practice and procedure of collective bargaining be struck out.

Fansteel Ruling Cited

"In the opinion of the committee, Congress should do everything in its power to protect the exercise by workers of that right," the report said, "but should not require the board to encourage unionization where employes do not want it."

The committee recommended also that changes be made in the act in line with the United States Supreme Court decision in the Fansteel case, with respect to the right of an employe who has been engaged in violence or unlawful destruction or seizure of property to be reinstated by order of the board. If a preponderance of the testimony taken showed that an employe had willfully engaged in unlawful practices, the board would not have the power to order his reinstatement. The use of the word "seizure" was understood to have included sitdown strikes as an unlawful activity.

As to the changes proposed in a clarification of the term "bargain collectively," the committee said:

"Questions have arisen under the present act as to whether the act compels an employer to enter into an agreement with the representatives of a majority of his employes in an appropriate bargaining unit. The Supreme Court in the Jones-Laughlin case (1937) 301 U. S. 1, stated that there was nothing in the act to compel an agreement, and the committee proposes to write into the act in terms that cannot be misunderstood the rules thus announced by the Supreme Court 'bargain collectively' is defined as including the requirement that employer meet and confer with his employes or their representatives, listen to their complaints,

SMITH COMMITTEE ASKS END OF NLRB; REVISED LABOR LAW

Times

House Group Recommends New 3-Man Board Shorn of Power to Prosecute

3-8-40

ADMINISTRATOR IS URGED

Newyork

Enforcement Powers to Rest in Him—Other Drastic Amendments Presented

7

Text of bill to amend the Wagner act is printed on Page 14.

By HENRY N. DORRIS

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

WASHINGTON, March 7—Amendments to the National Labor Relations Act providing drastic changes in the law, including abolition of the National Labor Relations Board and its replacement by a three-man agency divested of prosecution functions, were introduced today in the House by the Smith committee, which has been investigating the operations of the board.

No restrictions against the reappointment of the incumbent members were contained in the amendments, but the prosecution of unfair labor practices would be placed under a new officer, to be known as an administrator. The new board would act only in a judicial capacity.

This was only one of a number of proposed changes described by Representative Howard W. Smith, Democrat, of Virginia, chairman of the investigating committee, as designed to "meet pressing needs" for revamping the National Labor Relations Act and curbing the activities of the board. Mr. Smith emphasized that the committee's work was by no means complete. He said that it would offer "further amendments to the act and receive additional testimony concerning the act and the board and its employes and will develop several important phases of the resolution hitherto uncovered."

Committee Minority Dissents

The amendments were reported by a vote of 3 to 2. Representatives Charles A. Halleck of Indiana and Harry N. Routzohn of Ohio, Republicans, joined Chairman Smith in supporting the amendments. Two New Deal members, Representatives Arthur D. Healey of Massachusetts and Abe Murdock of Utah, filed a dissenting statement, calling the amendments "emasculatory" and asserting that they threatened the "principles, purposes and objectives" of the Wagner Act.

The bill containing the amendments was referred to the House Labor Committee, of which Representative Mary T. Norton of New Jersey is chairman. This committee in the past has been hostile to any changes in the Wagner Act.

Mrs. Norton said she would not comment on the amendments until she had time to study them. She said her committee would meet next Wednesday to consider whether to hold hearings on the bill. Mrs. Norton said in her opinion the Smith bill eventually would be defeated.

Mrs. Norton said she saw no reason why her committee should act until the final report of the Smith committee was filed.

Mr. Smith, in presenting the bill to the House, observed that his committee had split over the issues, and that it was "up to the House now" as to what should be done.

Earlier in the day, Mr. Smith at a press conference said it should be understood that the amendments were not designed to interfere with the rights of labor to collective bargaining, and that they were predicated upon the assumption that company-dominated unions were not to be recognized.

Leaders Study Bill

Mr. Smith said he did not know how the Administration stood on his amendments, although he conferred an hour with President Roosevelt, at the President's request, yesterday. No statement was forthcoming from Administration leaders in Congress, all preferring to study the bill before publicly stating their stand.

Considered among the important amendments was one conferring upon employers the right to demand an election when there are two competing unions in the same bargaining unit, in order to determine which shall be recognized. The granting of such elections at present is optional with the board. The amendment made no provision for a run-off election, but Mr. Smith said that "you should bear in mind the committee has not finished its work."

"Under the amendments, the board is precluded from acting in these cases on its own motion, and is permitted to act only upon application by an employer under specified circumstances, or upon application by a specified percentage of, or by a representative representing a specified percentage of, employes," the committee explained. "When such an application is made, the board is required to hold a hearing, and if as a result of the hearing it determines that the statements in the application are true and that the question is one affecting commerce, it is required by order first to determine the unit appropriate for collective bargaining. That unit can't be larger than the largest unit claimed as appropriate in an application filed by employes or representatives in the proceeding.

Employes Would Ballot

"After determining the unit appropriate for collective bargaining the board is required to take a secret ballot of employes in that unit and by order certify the representative or representatives for collective bargaining that have been chosen by a majority of the employes voting. This certification is to be effective for one year. Thus during this period both employes and employer will be freed from controversies with respect to employe representatives."

The divorce of prosecution powers from the board was designed to meet criticisms that the board had been "prosecutor, judge and executioner" in the past. The administrator, to be appointed by the President with the advice of the Senate, would receive $10,000 a year salary. He would have no connection with the board.

The administrator and his regional directors would receive complaints of unfair labor practices, make investigations and issue complaints. The board then would set a hearing date, not later than fifteen days after issuance of the complaint.

"It is hoped that this change will do away with the practice brought out in the hearing before the committee of fixing 'phoney' hearing dates for use as a lever to force a settlement," the committee statement said.

Orders of the board would be enforced in the courts upon application of the administrator and not upon application by the board, as at present.

The board, under the amendment, would cease being an advocate in appeal cases, this function being transferred to the administrator.

Changes also were made in the regulations covering subpoenas, to protect persons "from fishing expeditions." A person subpoenaed hereafter could appeal to the board to quash it, if in his opinion it required the production of records he did not think pertinent to the questions involved. Enforcement of subpoenas henchforward would be a matter for the courts.

Under the title "Freedom of Speech and of the Press" the committee majority recommended a clarifying amendment to Section 8 (1) of the act, to provide that "nothing therein is to be construed or interpreted as prohibiting any expressions of opinion on the part of the employe which may be of interest to employes or the public, provided that such expressions are not accompanied by acts or threats of discrimination, intimidation or coercion."

In the past the committee said questions have arisen under that section as to whether an employer was prohibited from expressing his opinion with respect to self-organization of employes and collective bargaining.

"Obviously," the committee said, 'no law of Congress can interfere with the freedom of speech or of the press guaranteed in the Bill of Rights."

The committee also recommended changes in the rules of evidence before the board, so that, "as far as practicable," hearings would be conducted in accordance with the rules of evidence applicable in United States District Courts.

Would Amend Rules of Evidence

Observing that rules of evidence prevailing in the courts were not controlling in board hearings, the committee said the practice had resulted in burdening the record with evidence, "as well as permitting the board to make findings based upon, and to draw inferences from, evidence which under the most liberal rules would never be admissible in a court of law."

Another important proposal would require the board to make decisions on the preponderance of the evidence, instead of on "substantial evidence."

The committee recommended that courts be permitted to overturn the board's findings of facts if they found that the board's determination was based upon erroneous evidence, or upon a lack of evidence. The board's finding of facts is conclusive at present.

A recommendation also was made that Section 1 of the act be changed to state that the failure to bargain collectively between employers and employes leads to strikes. The act at present states that the denial by employers of the right of employes to organize and that refusal by employers to accept the procedure of the collective bargaining leads to strikes.

The committee recommended that the declaration of policy of the act that it is the policy of the United States to encourage the practice and procedure of collective bargaining be struck out.

Fansteel Ruling Cited

"In the opinion of the committee, Congress should do everything in its power to protect the exercise by workers of that right," the report said, "but should not require the board to encourage unionization where employes do not want it."

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permit the use of the economic weight of the employer to interfere with the free exercise of the right of self-organization.

Move to Force Action Reported

By The Associated Press.

WASHINGTON, March 7—There were reports that an attempt would be made to force the Smith committee's proposed amendments of the Wagner act to the House floor if the Labor Committee did not approve them speedily.

"We're in favor of giving that committee a reasonable time—say one week," Representative Cox, Democrat, of Georgia, said.

Under the House rules, the Smith amendments could be brought before the House in thirty days if 218 members—half the House membership—signed a petition.

Reports had it that an attempt might be made earlier to "petition out" of the Labor Committee one of the many pending sets of Wagner act revisions and then attempt to substitute the Smith recommendations.

Battle Looms in Congress

By The United Press.

Representative Hoffman, Republican, of Michigan, one of the most persistent Wagner act critics, said that "generally" he believed the Smith committee recommendations were "good."

Senator Lister Hill, Democrat, of Alabama, labor committee member, said he believed the committee suggestions were "drastic and far-reaching."

"I am not sure that if these amendments were carried through they would not just about destroy the act," he added.

Another committee member, Senator Holt, Democrat, of West Virginia, who is not a New Dealer, saw "both good and bad features" in the amendments. He approved the separation of judicial and administrative functions, but said he was "perturbed" by the proposed elimination of the declaration of government policy to encourage collective bargaining.

"If that is eliminated, what is the purpose of having a Wagner act at all?" he asked.

Labor Act Amendments

After nine weeks' study of the national labor board and its record, the House subcommittee assigned to that task proposes a 17-point program for revision of the labor relations act. Among its salient recommendations are these:

Separation of the board's "prosecuting, judicial and administrative functions" so that the body itself would sit as a judge only, with another official handling the investigations and prosecutions. Application of the rules of evidence established in other courts of justice to the trials and hearings of the board. Definite rescission of its asserted power to order reinstatement and back pay for employes "willfully engaged in violence or unlawful seizure or destruction of property." Grant of duplicate rights now enjoyed only by labor organizers and leaders to employers as well.

There are other suggestions, notably one to create a new board of three to replace the present body, but permitting reappointment of all three present members if the president should see fit. Those cited above seem to us however the most important and most responsive to the complaints and criticisms filed against the embattled board.

Under ordinary conditions some revision of the labor act could be taken for granted. The attacks—aimed chiefly at the administering board but seeking remedial amendments of the law itself—have come from nearly all directions, from one of the greatest labor organizations as well as from employers and the spokesmen of business and industry. The labor board's undertaking to function as detective, prosecutor, judge, jury and executioner has been widely condemned as unfair, contrary to sound policy—and in practice harmful rather than helpful to labor relations. Some of the board's rulings have been fiercely protested by leaders of organized labor. Thus revision to meet and disarm the vital objections would be normally the logical and natural thing for Congress to do.

But this is a national election year. The labor board and the labor act have ardent—not to say fanatical—defenders who resist any change in the law. In the hope of blocking any such action at this session, militant anti-revisionists are playing upon political fears. Certain elements of the House membership already show a desire to postpone this revision business until after election.

But that course involves political hazards, too. Not only would the labor board critics be angered and disgusted by failure to act, but if the congressional dodging of the question were followed by aggravated labor strife or any series of wrath-provoking board rulings, strong popular resentment might be expressed at the November poll.

So Congress finds the decision between action and inaction on this controversial matter a tough one in a political year. The chairman of the House labor committee yesterday declared war on the subcommittee's revision program and predicted its rejection by the House. Other Washington observers have prophesied some sort of amendment before adjournment. Meanwhile the federal lawgivers doubtless are awaiting eagerly and anxiously the country's reaction to the 17-point revision proposal.

Forcing Labor Act Reforms

The advocates of amendments to the Wagner act and the reorganization of the National Labor Relations Board are preparing to make a fight, if necessary, to bring these measures before the house.

The special committee headed by Representative Smith, of Virginia, appointed to investigate the record of the labor board and the workings of the Wagner act has come forward with a 17-point program. This is embodied in a report submitted to the regular house committee on labor, headed by Mrs. Norton, who is a strong New Dealer and very much opposed to any change in the Wagner act or the labor board.

Representative Eugene Cox gave notice Thursday that he would make a fight to give the house a chance to vote on the proposed amendments. If the labor committee does not report out the bill embodying these recommendations, the procedure would be to circulate a petition among the members calling for the discharge of the committee and bringing the proposals directly to the floor of the house.

It will require 218 signatures to the petition, but Judge Cox has expressed the belief that he can secure these in two hours time and is confident, moreover, the house will pass the amendments.

The special committee, which has made a long and arduous investigation of the subject under review, recommends that the present labor board be abolished and that a new board of three, with no two members holding the same political faith, shall be appointed in its stead.

Of the highest importance is the proposal to divorce the judicial functions of the board from its prosecuting and administrative duties—a reform which has been vigorously demanded from business interests all over the country.

Requests for collective bargaining elections could only be made by employers or their workers.

The committee also recommended that employers be given the specific right to discuss every phase of labor relations with their employes, so long as they did not exercise coercion.

Perhaps no one feature of the Wagner act, as administered by the present board, has been more tyrannical or more clearly in violation of the constitutional guarantee of free speech than this.

Many times it has been cited that Henry Ford was charged with an unfair labor practice simply because he gave out an interview to a newspaper reporter, at the solicitation of the reporter himself, in which he said his employes could get nothing through a labor union which they could not get without one.

To amend the Wagner act so that this measure of free speech would be guaranteed would seem to be almost a matter of course.

Another amendment would provide that the labor board be definitely prohibited from ordering the reinstatement of employes who had engaged in a sit-down strike or had used any form of violence.

When the board protects sit-down strikers in the seizure of private property and holding it for ransom, American industry is placed in the power of radicals and the investors are afraid to put their idle dollars to work. It is a premium on lawlessness which cannot be tolerated.

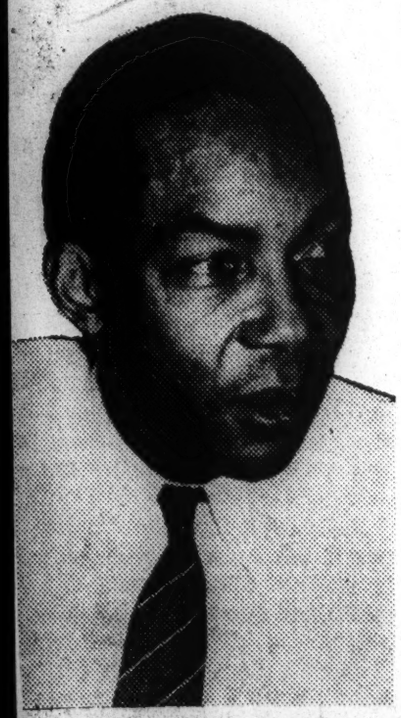
The supreme court of the United States has upheld the right of the employer to refuse to reinstate sit-down strikers and there is no reason why this provision should not be definitely embodied in the law.

These are but a few of the highlights of the report of the special committee which, in the form of amendments, Representative Cox and his group will seek to bring to a vote.

It ought to be apparent that the Democratic party has a better chance of success in the coming election if business is good, and it ought to be equally clear that the removal of those deterrents inherent in the Wagner act and in its administration are holding back business recovery.

LABOR- 1940
UNIONS, STRIKES, ETC.

National Maritime Union Asks Labor Dedicate April 6th as Day of Peace



FERDINAND SMITH

Proposes as Slogan on 21st Anniversary of U.S. Entry in War That 'Yanks Are Not Coming'

[Text of N. M. U. resolution and letter to seven maritime unions appears on page 6.]

The National Maritime Union yesterday urged all other American marine labor organizations to join with it in dedicating April 6, 21st anniversary of the United States' entrance into the last world war, as a day of "peace and trade union democracy, a day on which we shall . . . proclaim our determination to defend American institutions but not the interests of war-makers and war-profiteers.

In a letter to seven organizations, Ferdinand Smith, NMU National Secretary, asked them to help serve notice that **"The Yanks Are Not Coming."**

"We do not have to remind you," the letter states, "what war means for labor. It means a decline in real wages, it means speed-up, and it means the loss of civil and economic rights for which we have fought long and hard.

"The menacing 'M-Day' plan for industrial mobilization, twin product of the War Department and labor-hating financiers, is ready for operation the instant war is declared.

"Maritime workers, naturally, bear the brunt of any war-time attacks on labor. Ours is a basic, strategic industry. Our organizations are considered a menace to war profiteering (especially in munitions and shipping) and are bound to be the first victims of the drive on trade union rights.

"You will recall that the last World War brought death to more merchant seamen than to sailors in the United States Navy."

Our participation in the last World War, the letter says, has "come to be regretted by everybody." And, although the last war was supposed to be a "war to end wars," another war, which may assume greater proportions than the last, is already on.

American labor must ask itself, as April 6 rolls round, whether history is preparing to repeat itself, Smith goes on.

"Shall we be drawn into another European War?" the letter says we must ask ourselves. "Shall we again permit ourselves to be propogandized into sacrificing thousands upon thousands of American lives to protect the interests and investments of a few conscienceless financiers?

"The National Maritime Union believes that it is the job of labor to find the answer."

NMU Scores Attack on Ballot Right of Minorities

Resolution Passed at Membership Meeting Backs Statement Issued by Committee on Election Rights—1940

OCT 23 1940

Declaring that "denial of the right to vote as you please violates the American Constitution and is a serious threat to our form of government," the National Maritime Union, CIO, yesterday made public a resolution adopted at its last membership meeting condemning the attacks upon the ballot rights of minority parties.

The resolution, passed at the membership meeting of the Port of New York last week, endorsed a statement issued by Committee on Election Rights — 1940, demanding the right of every citizen "to vote as he pleases and for whom he pleases."

The resolution declared:

"Whereas in many states the right to vote is being unlawfully withheld from various minority parties; and whereas denial of the right to vote as you please violates the American Constitution and is a serious threat to our form of Government; and whereas these un-American acts are a continuation of the efforts of the Roosevelt Administration and their Republican partners to break the resistance of the American people to involvement in the war, therefore be it resolved that this meeting endorse the statement issued by the Committee on Election Rights demanding the right of every citizen to vote as he pleases, and for whom he pleases."

Union Says 600 Hired; No Discrimination

Some Highly Paid In Shop With U. S. Contracts

DEC 28 1940

NEWARK, N. J., (ANP)—According to an announcement by George White, financial secretary of the IUMSWA, local 16, CIO, there are more than 600 skilled and unskilled Negro workers employed in the Federal Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Co., located at Harrison, N.J.

Reynolds Pkg.

These Negro workers perform all sorts of work from laborers to the high paid riveters. Wages range from 62 1-2 cents per hour to $1 per hour.

BOSS THWARTED

Norfolk, Va.

"There is absolutely no discrimination," said Mr. White. "There have been abortive efforts on the part of bosses to discriminate, but when it was found out our local immediately rectified matters."

Apprentice training is taken care of by means of the seniority system, no new workers being hired in the skilled departments until the employed semi-skilled have a chance at promotions. There are several shop stewards who are Negroes. One of them, a hothery has one of the largest departments under his control.

REPRESENTED ON COMMITTEE

The present agreement, under which the men are working, was signed June 29, and 39 Negroes were on the committee of workers.

The IUMSWA, local 16, has 8,000 men out of 9,600 employed in the shipyard. There is enough government workto keep the plant going for more than five years, accaccording to Mr. White.

Guards scrutinize each worker and the few visitors permitted in the place. There have been two bomb scores which turned out to be harmless. FBI checks on all new employes.

AFL Attempts To Organize Hotel-Restaurant Workers

Daily world
Editorial

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J.—(SNS)—During recent years many efforts have been made by local and out of town agents of the American Federation of Labor, to organize the Colored Restaurant and Hotel workers of this resort city, but success has been practically nil. However, it appears now that new and more concrete consideration is being offered those who will avail themselves of the opportunity to join and the effort is on again in earnest. In fact, they hope to succeed this time where others have failed.

The failure to organize the rank and file of Negro workers throughout the nation undoubtedly kept them in almost complete serfdom, for low these many moons, but the unions have been so prejudice and unfair to ou people they have feared they would loose even the pittances they had even though they were wholly inadequate and bordered the level of starvation wages and allowances.

It is definitely stated now by those of the A. F. of L., who are in authority that colored workers will receive their share of the organization benefits. If that is true there is merit to the effort that is now going forward with Mr. Robert H. Griffin and Mrs. Virginia Meades in the driver's seat. Both of these agents are favorably known in this city as persons of responsibility and character. These qualities should aid them immeasurably in the enormous task they have undertaken.

One of the important factors of the A. F. of L., is its policy of cooperation with all types of American Industry. It is true their policy is to advance and protect the right of its members, but it does not attempt, in any way, to disrupt the steady operation of any interprise by doing so. In other words it is their purpose to reach a common understanding between all of the individuals concerned, thus making matters interesting and of supreme value to all. The dictatorial and unrelenting methods of the now famous C I. O. are just the opposite.

With the thought that this movement is one or cooperation and common understanding on the part of all, many will acclaim this fresh effort with a favorable attitude. The fact that capital and labor have been at odds for the past ten or fifteen years should encourage both groups of our citizenry to do everything possible to reach a common understanding. No group could possibly desire it more than the Negro Hotel and Restaurant workers in Atlantic City. We all wish Mr. Griffin and Mrs. Meade the success their effort deserves.

Newark Court Orders Trucker to Settle Strike

NEWARK, N.J. — William T Fletcher, wealthy trucker of this city, was told by Vice-Chancelor Bigelow in the Court of Chancery, last week to amicably settle the strike now in progress against his company and not look to the courts for help in halting it.

Mr. Fletcher, president of the trucking company bearing his name, had asked the court to grant a permanent injunction against his striking employees, affiliated with Local 680, Teamsters' and Chauffeurs' Union. Four of his drivers and three helpers walked out last month in protest against hours and wages.

During the early days of the strike, numerous sympathizers of the workers joined the picket line in front of his offices at 176 New York Avenue. The company obtained a temporary court order limiting the picketing to five men. The union was also restrained from interfering with the business.

Refused Infunction

In refusing to grant a permanent injunction as petitioned by the trucking concern, Vice-Chancelor Bigelow said:

"Affidavits show that the men worked from ten to fifteen hours a day and were paid from $9.75 to $22 a week.

"Complainant, by working his men such long hours for such miserable wages, compelled them to strike. He is responsible for the situation in which he finds himself and can have no relief in equity."

Mr. Fletcher is among the early settlers in Newark. He began his business by operating one truck on street corners. Today, he has several trucks and holds hauling contracts with numerous firms.

He is on the board of management of the Court Street branch YMCA and is reputed to be the wealthiest colored businessman in Newark.

LABOR- 1940
UNIONS, STRIKES, ETC.

NEW YORK

Dressmakers Union Elects Five Negro Officers

Five Negro officers were elected by 18,461 dressmakers at a general election held last month. The Dressmakers Union, Local 22, is the second largest unit of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, and one of America's most prominent local unions.

Four of the Negro officers shown here, reading left to right, are: Blanche Lee, convention delegate; Edith Ransom, business agent; Maida Springer and Hidica Riley, executive board members. Not shown in the picture is Charrisa Bostic, another convention delegate. Miss Edith Ransom was re-elected as business agent in charge of the Negro section.

The convention delegates will represent Local 22 at the forthcoming 24th biennial convention of the ILGWU which will begin on May 27 in Madison Square Garden. The election was held in twelve polling places located throughout the city.

—Sunday Worker Photos

LADIES AUXILIARY AIDS—Members of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Transport Workers Union prepare food for striking cabmen at Transport Hall, 153 W. 64th Street.

TAXI STRIKERS INTERVIEWED—Shown at Transport Hall (left to right) William Brody, Patrick Aaron, Peter Green, Alexander Heath and Isadore Eder, all striking Parmalee and Terminal drivers. "We're most underpaid workers in the big city," they said.

HACKIES, THE 'BIG CITY'S OAKIES,' TELL WHY THEY ARE OUT ON STRIKE

Never See Kids, and Have Only Rags to Show for Work

By John Meldon

The place had been an unused basement at union headquarters until the strike started, and then it was turned into a soupkitchen where they served everything but soup because taxi drivers seem to like coffee, thick sandwhiches and big chunks of pie—sort of a proletarian trademark of their calling.

Foot weary pickets sat at the coverless tables and their voices overrode the sound of the dozen or so women of the Transport Workers Union auxiliary who ran the kitchen with cafeteria - like efficiency. Strikers kept coming in and finding seats and very often old friends they'd hacked with a year or so before and hadn't seen until the walkout started.

"Hey, throw that guy out. He's scabbin' over in Brooklyn," a newcomer shouted about the din. He was a big fellow and he stood in the doorway pointing an indignant finger to a little chap sitting in back of the soupkitchen. It was beautiful acting.

JOKE ON THE COMPANY

The little fellow stood up and when he saw that all eyes were on him, he glared back at the big fellow and snarled:

"Come on and 'throw me out y'big company pigeon!"

Then a roar of laughter shattered the silence when the strikers saw who the little fellow was. It was one of the best pickets on the line, one of the first of the hackmen to join the union, and the little guy who had bucked the blacklist for a long time until the union had gotten strong enough to put him back in a cab.

There were no scabs or company finks sitting in the soupkitchen, of course. You could no more find one there than you could find a member of the Astor family living in one of their own rat-ridden tenement buildings. But the incident of the big fellow, and his smaller pal, horseplay though it was, is the sort of thing that has the big fleet owners worried stiff. There are probably no workers in this city at the moment who have more pride in their union, or who have more to win under a union banner than the New York hackmen. And the reason they have struck, while essentially outlined in the briefly written set of demands, doesn't by a longshot tell the whole story.

HAD BIG IDEAS

Cab drivers are not the illiterate tough-spoken men the movies would have them appear to be. You'll find youngsters, for instance, who not so long ago sat in college classrooms and hoped to be doctors, or even aspired to no higher job in life than the job of an efficient accountant. Then you'll find the industrially dispossesed—the former building trades workers, the butcher, the baker and the garment maker—all thrown on Wall Street dump pile during the past ten years of depressions and crises. And, in the majority, you'll find the old-times, the men who have shoved hacks night and day in the heavist traffic centers in the world, putting up with snarling cops at every corner, and ruthless fleet owners who attempt to gyp them at every turn.

What the average New Yorker doesn't know about these men who are now pounding the pavements is that they are in an economic sense about only one step removed from the conditions of the people in the Grapes of Wrath. You might call the New York cab drivers the Big-City Oakies.

Here's why.

WHAT THEY MAKE

Fruitpickers and farm workers on the West Coast get about 20 cents an hour—and they had to fight and die for that—as Imperial Valley has shown the world.

The average New York hackman works six days a week, up to eighty hours of that week and makes about $17—or a rough equivalent of what the poverty stricken farm hands get these days. But the cab driver has to pay big-city rents — there are no $10 a month shacks for him to move into. He has to pay big-city prices for bread and butter and stockings for his kids—and when you add up the brutal facts, he's about the poorest paid hardest worked man you can lay hands on—that's why he's fighting today.

Alexander Heath of 1219 Union Ave., the Bronx, is one of these men, and his story, as he told it in the strikers soutkitchen could be multiplied six thousand times, and that would be the general story of the men on strike in this city at the moment. Heath is a Negro and he has been hacking since 1930.

A PROPOSITION

"Sure," he says, "those are our demands," pointing to a TWU leaflet. "And boy, we've got everything to win in this fight.

"It was tough when I started hacking ten years ago, but even then it was possible for a man to take care of his family. The next few years it got worse and worse until a guy couldn't even feed himself instead of a family.

"I've been driving nights and I've got a four year old boy who has grown up in my own house and I don't know him because I push a hack twelve hours a night and sleep while he's awake."

At that point, a thin faced white hackman, listening to Heath, interjected bitterly:

"You don't see YOUR kid?" he exclaimed. "Man alive. It got so I wanted to see my youngster so bad that once when I was off a few days sick, I called him over and said 'look son, when you come home from school at noon, if you'll come into the bedroom and wake me up, each time you do, I'll give you a penny.' I figured that'd work and so it did."

Then Heath went on with his story and he told it quietly like a man reciting something he knows by heart and doesn't talk about often—but something that's always on his mind.

"It's not only my four year old kid," he said, "It's the way we have to live on the wage I get. My wife bought a pair of shoes two years ago, and so help me she's not had a pair since. That kid—the doctor says take him out of the city and maybe he'll get rid of that sinus and put on some weight—hell man, where can we go?

"And it's tough on a woman. I don't want my wife sitting looking at four scummy walls all day long when I'm sleeping and all night long when I'm hacking. Such things as that get a woman so that she's nervous and jumpy and maybe says things she don't mean to. But it helps bust up families this business of bills and more bills, and no money for a sick kid."

NOTHING TO SHOW

He grabbed his suede jacket and tore it open. It was frayed and greasebitten.

"I ain't had an overcoat for five years," he said.

"This thing I have to wear Monday come Sunday and boy it gets cold pushing a cab in the dead of winter.

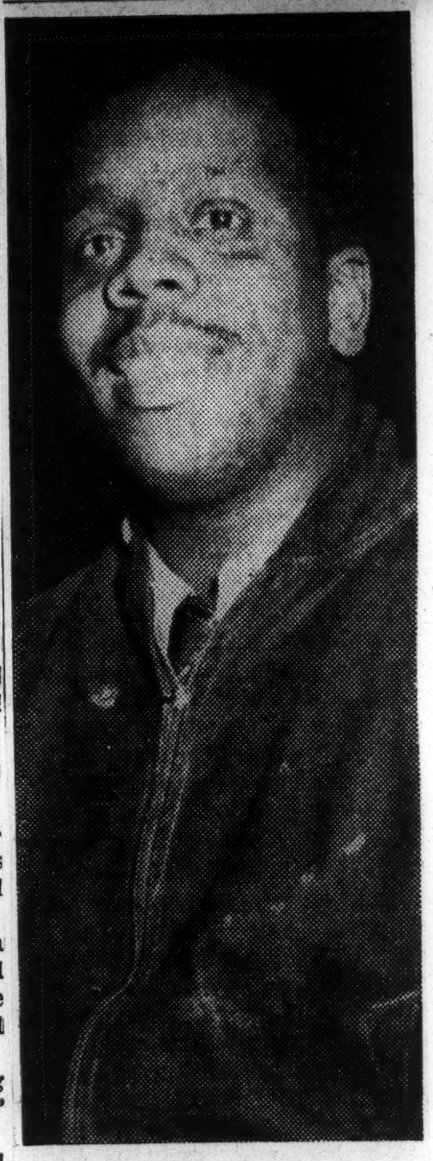
"Right now I got a half dozen pawn tickets in my pocket," he said a little sheepishly. Several of the strikers grinned. It was an old story with them.

"We've hocked about everything not nailed down at my house," Heath said.

"Well, I could go on this way all day. Let some of the other guys here tell you about it. We're all in the same boat."

Some of the others did tell about it. The story was the same. Peter Green, a small thickset hackie who lives at 22 Mill St., Brooklyn, spoke up.

"Me, I've pushed a hack for twenty years and what I got to show for it you can see me wearing. If it wasn't for the union I'd about give up, but since the union came, things have slowly been getting better and after this fight's over they'll be much better."



ALEXANDER HEATH—"Don't even get a chance to see my child," striking Paramalee driver says describing conditions of

'We Picket Too,' Say 9 Children of Taxi Striker Da Costa

By Beth McHenry

Cecilia Da Costa, 14-year-old daughter of Jose Da Costa, a striking Parmelee taxi driver, told the Daily Worker yesterday, "it's a real shame you didn't find my mother home today, because she knows all about the union and she's got some spirit, let me tell you."

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"She goes down there to take my father's place now, because he was taken to the hospital real sick in the middle of the night last Saturday," the little girl said.

The four Da Costa children we found at home in the family flat at 95 Union Ave. in the Negro section of the East Bronx yesterday, were all wearing Transport Workers Union buttons.

"We picket too," 13-year-old Gertrude said proudly. "All nine of us went with my mother out to picket at the World's Fair the day it opened. Our little sister, Ethel, who is three years old, makes a face at every man she sees driving a taxicab. She thinks all those that are driving cabs now are no good."

Seven of the nine Da Costa children are girls. Alicia, 18, who will be a stenographer "next year," says girls cost an awful lot of money.

"I feel sorry for my mother and father, having to worry so much about us. But they sure take care of us, let me tell you."

The Da Costa children range in age from 19 to 3. Jose, who is 16, wants to stop school and go to work to help the family. But their mother hates for him to give up school, the girls said.

The children were just in from school and were bustling about the house, making beds, doing dishes, sweeping.

"It's our job to keep up the house while mama pickets and works down in the union soup kitchen," Cecilia said. "Sometimes we help down there too. Most all of us can cook real good."

KIDS KNOW WHAT'S UP

The Da Costa family has been dependent on a meager "Parmelee" living for some five years. It's been tough sledding, and the children appreciate what their mother and father go through trying to keep this big family together.

"Some days there wasn't hardly enough to eat," Gertrude said. "And shoes and rent, whew! The taxi business sure doesn't make you rich, my father says. Some days he'd only bring in a dollar or so, and all of us to feed!"

Their father was "always union," they said proudly.

"I guess we know about the union more than most kids do," Cecilia volunteered. "You see my father and mother, they treat us like we were grown up and talk to us about things. My father used to have his own business. He was a moving man, and my mother ran his office for him. Then something happened to his moving truck. He didn't have any insurance and no money to buy a new truck. So he had to go be a taxi-man. We had the hardest times of all since that happened. That was five years ago."

The five-room railroad flat, in a run-down-at-the-heels building, costs $38 a month. Obviously the landlords have made no improvements since the territory was opened up to Negro tenants although rents have been jacked up sky-high.

WANTS TO STUDY MUSIC

The most prominent piece of furniture in the DaCosta household is a somewhat weather-beaten piano, which little Gertrude plays with amazing skill.

Gertrude wants to study music and the piano.

And Cecilia is studying like the deuce so she can go to Hunter and prepare for medical college. She has always wanted to be a doctor and her mother and father encourage her constantly.

"You see," Cecilia said, "my folks are trying to help us get somewhere, so we won't have to work out in people's houses, like so many Negro women have to do. Of course, it takes money to study to be a doctor. But I'm going to try to become one anyway. I like to study and biology is my favorite subject."

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Laundry Workers Charge Bias in Brooklyn Local

"Before you can speak to me or Mr. Simon, you'll have to wash your face seven times." This was the answer given to a delegation of 35 laundry workers headed by George Warfield last Monday at union headquarters, 160 Fifth Ave., when they sought an explanation from Hyman Bloomberg, general manager, for his suspension of Miss Charlotte Adelmond that same day. This insult brought out into the open, a well laid plan to eliminate Negroes from offices in the union, according to members of the union.

In order to fight such discrimination and prejudice, the committee presented formal charges against Bloomberg last Thursday at the Eexcutive board headquarters at 635 Fulton street. They demanded that Miss Adelmond, who was suspended for a month because Bloomberg "didn't like her attitude," he immediately reinstated; that Bloomberg be made to apologize to all the Negro members in writing, and that he be suspended for six months without pay. In answer to the charges, the Executive Board informed the committee that the entire report would be relayed to the Joint Board for final decision.

The Laundry Workers Union of Greater New York, one of the strongest labor organizations in the city, is affiliated with the Amalgamated Clothing Company of America, C. I. O. Negro membership in the union amounts to 65 per cent of the total. During the past year there has been a sharp decline in Negro office-holders. When the L.W.U. joined the Amalgamated Clothing Company in June, 1937, the union was split into nine different locals extending over the entire metropolitan area. Most of these locals still retained a Negro membership majority. In local No. 333 of Brooklyn, where Negro workers constitute a sixty-five per cent majority, Negro leadership has been replaced by whites. In local No. 327, of which Miss Adelmond is business agent, the membership is 50 per cent white.

While all the officers in locals are elected by the membership, recently there has been many appointments to posts which previously were filled by elections. This has been one of the methods by which Negroes have been stadily eliminated from official capacities. One member who asked that her name be withheld, stated that another phase of the union in which Negroes have been hard hit, is through the six employment offices. In all but two of these, Negroes are the last to be considered. Even refugee whites, it was said, get preference over Negroes. In the Harlem office on 125th street, and the Central office on East 17th St., where Odell Clark is in charge, Negroes have a fair chance of getting jobs, it was revealed. Lately, there has been a move on foot to have Clark removed on the grounds of inefficiency. The real reason, this reporter was told, was because he opposes the progressive group which is in power.

An example of typical union manipulation as revealed by a member, is shown in the case of Phillip Elson, white, foromerly business manager of local No. 300. He was voted out of office by the membership who did not want him. After losing his position, Elson was handed a job by union heads as Compliance Manager, a job which gave him an increase in salary ($55 per week) and places him in position to fire or suspend workers.

On another occasion, it was revealed that at a joint Board meeting, Norah Walter, assistant manager, brought up the question of racial discrimination, a subject which the Negro members were anxious to bring up. Apposed by Roy Soden, colored business agent and Frank Sullivan who charged Walter with attempting to disrupt the union by bringing up racial issues. The meeting was broken up by the colored members.

The plight of the Negro is extremely difficult in laundry work. He is refused employment in all the big shops such as Cascades in Brooklyn, Bronx National, Gold Seal, Knickerbocker and State Laundry in Hempstead, L. I. White union officials who show a tendency to eliminate Negroes from important positions get ahead rapidly, as the case of Arthur Levy who has been in the laundry business for fifteen years and has been a pioneer in union activities.

Amsterdam News
SEP 28 1940
New York, N.Y.
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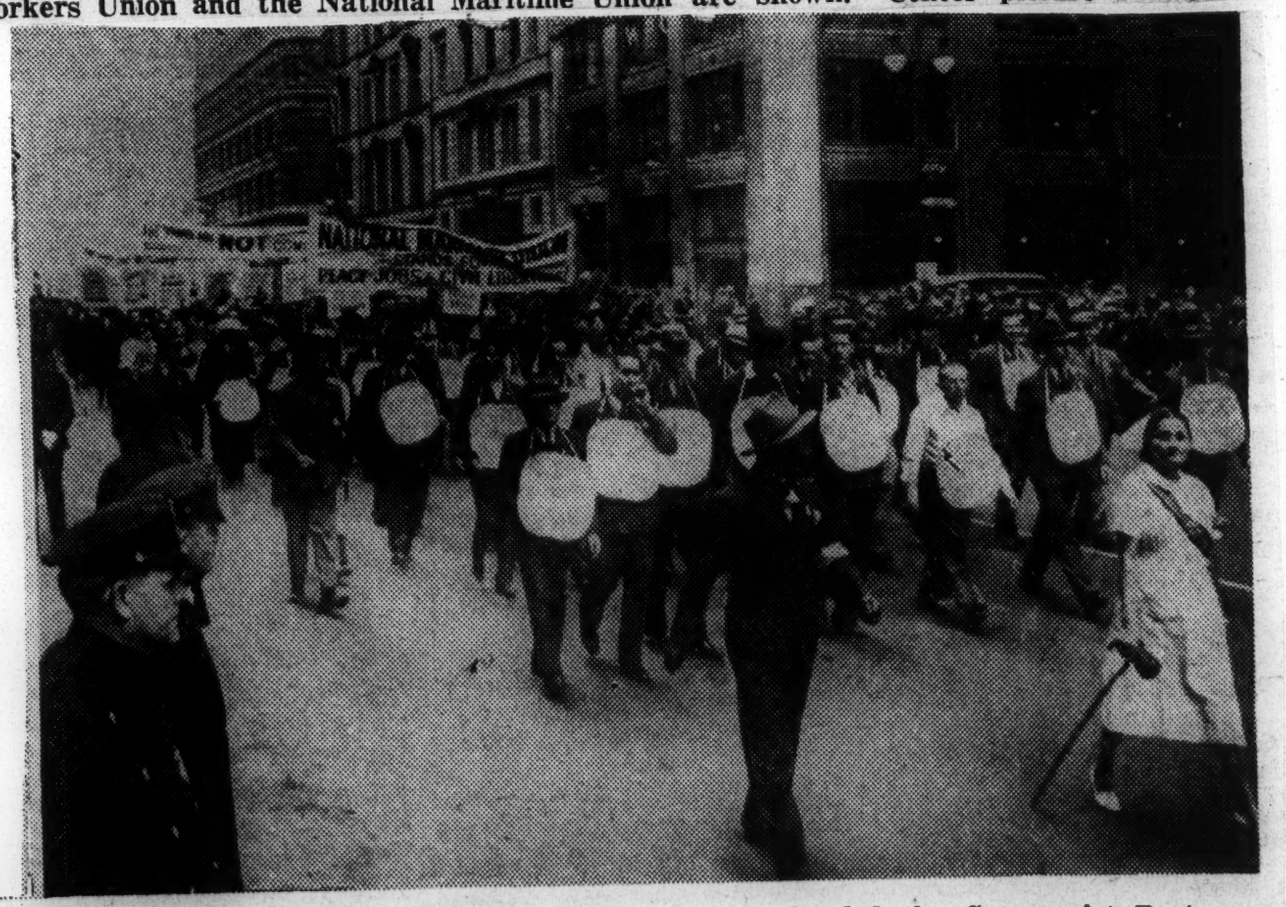
SCENES ALONG LINE OF MARCH IN MAY DAY PARADE HERE—Two of the many CIO and AFL union contingents participating under the United May Day Committee, the Fur and Leather Workers Union and the National Maritime Union are shown. Center picture shows Earl



Browder (left) and James W. Ford, Communist leaders, as they headed the Communist Party contingent in the parade. Part of the Fur Union members in the march are shown in left photo, and NMU in right picture.

—Daily Worker Pho

Fights to Get Negroes in Nat'l Machinist Assn.

SEP 29 1940

NEW YORK, Sept. 26—(ANP)—The National Urban League last week entered the fight to secure the admittance of skilled Negro mechanics to membership in the International Association of Machinists (AF of L), bringing to bear the influence of all its 15 affiliates throughout the country.

The league gave full support to delegates sponsoring a constitutional revision for this purpose before the resolutions committee of the organization at its quadrennial convention in Cleveland. A favorable vote was expected from the general membership of the union if the committee could be prevailed upon to report the measure favorably.

APPROVES BILL TO BAR RACE CURBS BY UNIONS

Lehman Says They Must Not Use Rights for Discrimination

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

ALBANY, Feb. 14 Governor Lehman signed today the Perry bill making it a misdemeanor for officials of labor unions to indulge in racial or religious discrimination of any kind in connection with union membership or activities. The bill was one of his program measures, and passed the Legislature without opposition.

Last year the Governor vetoed a bill which would have deprived unions practicing racial discrimination of the benefits of the Labor Relations Act, on the grounds that the measure left unions open to unfounded attacks. In his message approving the Perry bill today the Governor said:

"This bill carries out one of the principal recommendations made in my annual message to the Legislature.

"The purpose of the bill cannot be too highly commended. Organized labor is recognized by all as a most significant part of our industrial society. This fact finds recognition in the enlightened laws recently written on the statute books of State and nation.

"But with greater rights come greater responsibilities. The rights which government has accorded to organized labor must not be used as instruments of oppression. They must be extended equally to all workers. Distinctions based on race, creed or color cannot be tolerated. Such practices can only result in bringing organized labor rapidly into justified ill repute. It must see itself as others see it, as an integral part of our democratic society. It will not long retain that status by indulging in undemocratic habits of discrimination.

"This bill, I am certain, will aid greatly in eliminating the vicious practice of discrimination."

First Strike Won by Negro Performers

Chorus Girls at Apollo Get Union Contract After Picketing

A smash-hit victory was won for the 22 Negro chorus girls who were called out on strike last Saturday at the Apollo Theatre, 125th St., near Eighth Ave., by the American Guild of Variety Artists.

The strike, which was the first in the history of New York's Negro performers, was staged against sweat-shop conditions and low wages and ended Sunday night when an agreement, verified by the strikers, was reached between the union and the theatre management.

The agreement calls for a closed shop and an increase in wages for chorus girls from $25 to $30 per week; $5 extra per week for girls who step out of line during performances; a minimum of $40 per week for principal performers and a pro-rata basis of pay for all shows beyond $30 weekly.

Hours for rehearsal were limited to 30 a week and the 22 striking chorus girls will be paid for time off during the strike. They were also guaranteed work four out of every succeeding five weeks and no discharge of any member of their group without the consent of the union and the cast.

At a meeting of the union yesterday, Miguel Garriga, international vice-president of the Hotel and Restaurant Employes Union, told the gathering that in connection with the drive to organize the night clubs of New York, "you can be assured that cooks, waiters and bartenders will be 100 per cent with you."

John J. Sullivan, secretary of the New York Hotel Trades Council pledged the full cooperation of his organization to the American Guild of Variety Artists in its efforts to organize performers.

An executive board of 21 members was elected at the meeting.

Cafeteria Union Strikes for Contract Outlawing Racial Discrimination

Strikes were called by the Cafeteria Employes Union, Local 302 A. F. of L. yesterday at 1 P. M. in the three Hamlin Food Shops because the employer refused to pay the union scale to unskilled workers and sought to rule out the union's standard contract outlawing race discrimination.

The three shops, located at 208 E. 14th St., 833 Eighth Ave., and 657½ W. 181st St. are manned entirely by union members.

The contract in question, is a renewal, calling for higher wages for the unskilled workers, now prevalent in all union shops.

The union has at all times taken a definite stand against racial discrimination. All its contracts contain clauses making it a breach of contract for the employer to operate on a discriminatory basis.

All of the thirty workers employed in the three stores are expected to join the picket line at once.

Harlem Labor Union Leader Under Arrest

NEW YORK — (ANP) — John Parris, 31, a salesman and a member of the Harlem Labor union, was under bail of $250 this week, charged with collecting dues without authorization.

A petty larceny charge was filed against Parris by Joseph Urbina, owner of a restaurant. Urbina said Parris entered his restaurant and represneted himself as a collector for the Harlem Labor union. He was given $5 by the restaurent owner and after he left he discovered that he was an imposter.

Police were notified and Parris was arrested by Detective Cusberth, colored detective His hearing will be held on August 21

The Harlem Labor union has long been fighting for jobs for colored white collar workers in Harlem. They have often been in the limelight during their years of fighting. While tney have done some good in securing jobs for members labor organizations claim they have been "racketeers."

A complete reorganization of the union was made early in the summer.

AMALGAMATED LABOR, COORDINATING COMMITTEE

YOUNG REPUBLICAN LEAGUE TO PICKET FULTON ST

Members of at least three borough organizations will head a sensational mass picket directed against a group of Fulton street stores which have refused to recognize the right of Negroes to work where they spend their shopping dollars, it was exclusively revealed to The New York Age.

The protest parade which will consist of an orderly procession of approximately fifty persons, single file, and bearing placards will likely take place Thursday, August 1, either in the area of the Fulton streets stores between Ralph and Sumner avenues or below Sumner and proceeding to Nostrand.

Organizations which are lined up to take part in this unusual demontsration include The Amal-gamated Labor Association, a unit of the Harlem Labor Union; The Brooklyn Branch of The Greater New York Coordinating Committee and the Local Affairs Committee of the Kings County Young Republican League.

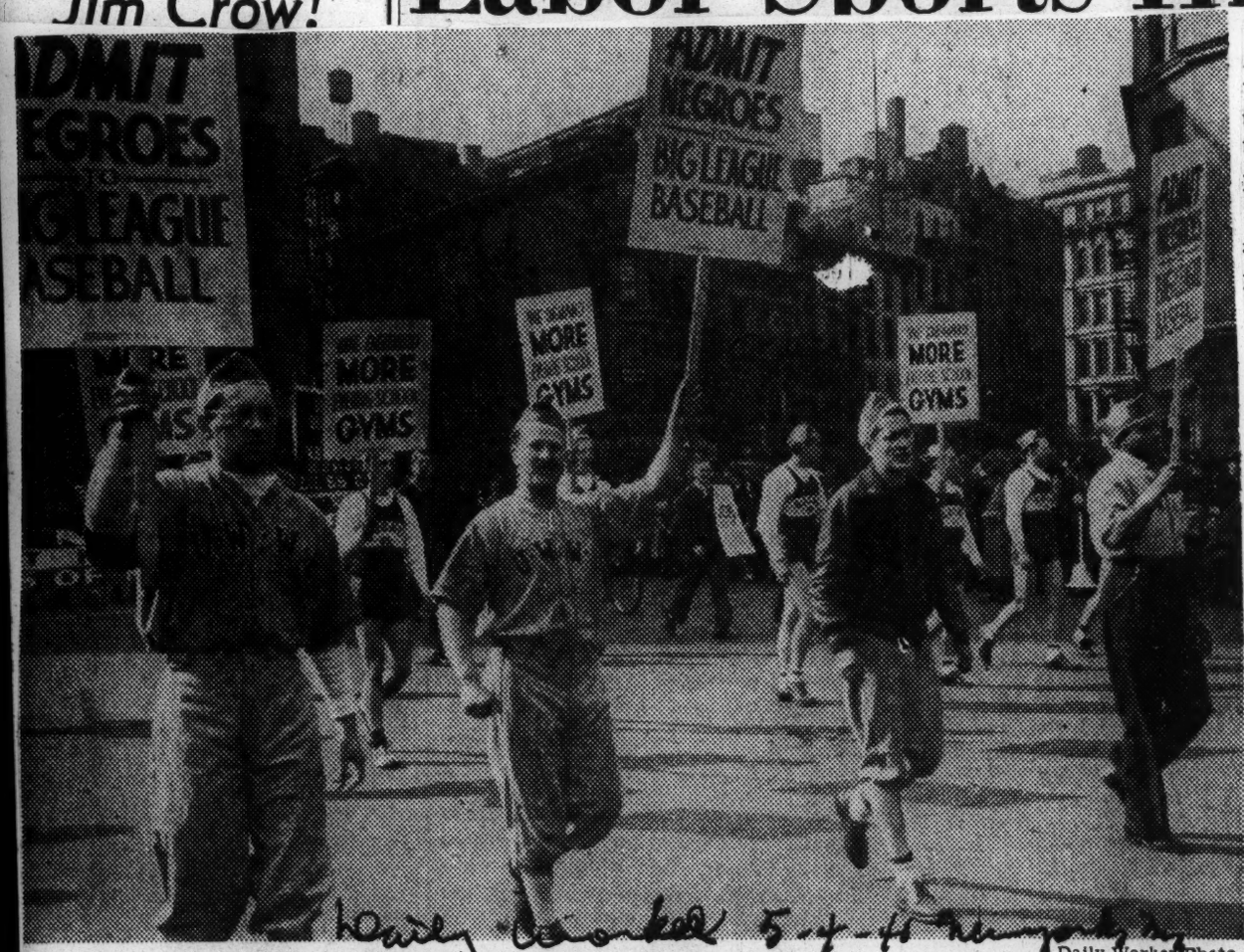
This action was seen as a direct answer to the expose of The New York Age last week of tactics of The Fulton Civic Association, a group of two hundred Fulton street merchants. In this expose, it was shown the merchants' group had shamefully stalled the Amalgamated Labor Association over the period of several months, pretending to carry on negotiations which would mean proportionate jobs for Negroes, suddenly breaking off the negotiations with a half-hearted excuse.

From a conference last week between Clyde Atwell, of the local Coordinating Committee; Roger Straughn, president of Amalgamated and J. Seldon Wesley, youthful head of the newly-organized Republican group, was issued the following statement:

"Fulton street merchants in the Bedford-Stuyvesant area are notoriously unfair to Negroes who patronize their business heavily. We are endeavoring to make some impression upon the Negro people of this area to induce them to realize that as long as they patronize these ungrateful merchants so long will the merchants remain ungrateful."

Labor Sports Against Jim Crow!

Trade Union AA Opens Biggest Convention in Labor Sports Histor y



Daily Worker 5-4-40

-Daily Worker Photo

The scene above from the May Day parade shows members of the baseball team of the Wholesale and Warehouse Union, a member of the Trade Union Athletic Association, with banners asking an end of the ban on Negro players in big league baseball. The TUAA is one of the members of the broad Committee to End Jim Crow in Baseball formed this spring and including sports editors, college publications, the Youth Congress, Y's, Settlement Houses and Negro organizations.

Behind them members of the baseball team raise the banners for more evening school gyms, something very much needed. The contingent was enthusiastically received all the way down the line of march.

Labor sports take another giant step forward tomorrow when a special convention of the Trade Union Athletic Association meets at Manhattan Center to plan a broader organization to cope with the tremendous increase in affiliations from twenty - three a year ago to fifty-six today.

One hundred affiliated and interested unions, representing CIO, A. F. of L. and independent unions, are expected to send over two hundred delegates to take part in the morning and afternoon sessions.

Reports on the past year's activities, together with a talk by James V. Mulholland, Recreation Director of the Park Department will open the convention.

Negro and white unity in the trade unions will be a keynote. The Trade Union A. A. was the driving factor in the establishment of the Committee to Lift the Ban on Negroes in Baseball, and will feature a discussion on discrimination in sports by Bernard Stephens, committee member.

A major point on the convention agenda will be the Labor Sports Days at the World Fair June 30 and July 7. The Trade Union A.A. will sponsor a gala athletic carnival, track meet and Trade Union Beauty Pageant on the two days. A marathon run from City Hall to the Fair grounds will be a colorful high light of the Labor Sports Days. Senator James A. Mead will speak at the Fair festivities. Manny Lansky, World's Fair Committee chairman, will report on the Labor Sports Days to the convention.

Tobacco Workers' Union Elect Negro To Executive Board

OCT 6 1940

LOUISVILLE, Ky., (C)—For the first time since the early days of its organization, the Tobacco Workers' International Union elected a Negro, George Benjamin to the executive board. The majority of the workers in the tobacco industry are Negroes. Sign up these boys just as soon as they do . . . . . .

Painters Election—A Lesson to Shouters Of 'Fifth Column'

Daily Worker

The Shattering Defeat of the Zausner Reactionary Clique Is a Resounding Blow to All Warmongers in the Trade Unions

7/1/40

By George Morris

Take my advice. Don't try the "fifth column" stuff. It don't work. Worst than that—it kicks back.

Phillip Zausner.

New York.

Phillip Zausner may as well send this message to all his friends as that is what he learned from Saturday's election for secretary-treasurer and eight business agents in Painters District Council 9.

Reactionaries, Social Democrats. Trotzkyites, racketeers, sappers of union treasuries, stooges of the employers and all varieties of outcasts from labor's ranks, may as well know that this latest stunt of pinning the "fifth column" label on opponents doesn't work.

Zausner put the method to a thorough test. Thousands of dollars went for printing bills. Never in the union's many turbulent elections were the painters showered with as many smear leaflets. Never so many dirty slanders and scurrilous cartoons. The master-minds in Zausner's leaflet factory collected the worst samples of the lying propaganda about Nazi-Soviet "unity" and threw it at the painters in the most exaggerated form. Everything was tried to picture Louis Weinstock, candidate of the Rank & File for secretary-treasurer as an 'agent of Stalin" and an "agent of Hitler." He was slanderously shown coming down in a parachute and in similar fashion. The appeal was especially directed to the Jewish voters.

THE RESULTS

In short, this was the up-to-date application of the Red-scare buttressed by the "fifth column" idea. The result was:

Weinstock	**4,027**
Zausner	**2,375**

The entire slate of eight business agents on the Rank & File ticket got in by big majorities.

Almost all of the local elections were swept by the Rank & File.

Out of 36 delegates on the District Council the R. & F. has 24 certain.

The highest majority the R. & F. ever had before in a general ballot was 700.

A year ago, before the German-Soviet non-aggression pact, before the latest idea for slander was conceived, when even some of those in Zausner's camp identified themselves with the Rank & File, Weinstock's group lost the election by a vote of 3,101 to 2,822 with a third candidate polling 512. Almost the entire council and most of the business agents went to the Zausner people then.

Daily Worker

No, "fifth column" shouting does not work. In fact, it directs attention to the real fifth columnists—to those rotten elements, the enemies of labor and leeches who have been driven out, who are certain of defeat on the real issues, and, therefore, lay hopes on a comeback only behind a screen such as "fifth column" shouts.

In last Saturday's case, Zausner was discovered to be the fifth columnist and his ticket was a Trojan Horse within which were packed all the disreputable characters who made up the union's regime until the advent of the Rank & File to power in 1936.

For those reasons, the painters' election holds a significance of general importance to the trade union movement and teaches lessons that ought to interest everybody.

WARMONGERS' TACTICS

The idea of tagging a fifth column label on progressives is a product of the pro-war hysteria. The pro-war elements, particularly Social-Democrats as Zausner, favor it because it flows from their entire outlook. Job-seekers and corrupt people don a patriotic garb and work up considerable fever about "fifth columns" because it conveniently fits in with their ambitions.

The painters' and other recent union elections indicate that progressives will confront such trickery everywhere and might as well make up their minds to meet it. It is to the credit of the painters that they met it. For that reason they have an honest, militant leadership, while the reactionaries are unmasked and out.

In the first place the Zausnerites were met with organization. The Rank & File clubs of the locals were knit together and well managed from a central campaign headquarters. New leaflets and bulletins were issued almost daily as no rumor or slander put out by the Zausner forces went unanswered. At the same time the Rank & File put its opponents on the defensive during the entire campaign by forcing the trade problems to the fore. The membership was reminded of the kick-back days and job-favoritism when Zausner was czar of the union, of the insecurity for painters, of the disregard of the union contract with permission of union officials.

The membership then was asked to recall the progress the union made during three years under Weinstock, especially the establishment of partial job control and the effect that has had upon maintaining the basic standard; how corruption was wiped out, and how kick-back practices were ruthlessly prosecuted.

The Zausnerites sought to drown out these hard-hitting facts with shouts of "communazi," "fifth column," "Stalin agent," but to that came the answer that they are more anxious to echo the war-mongers than they are interested in the welfare of the painters.

THE "FORWARD" ROLE

One particularly significant result in the election is that the Jewish voters were not influenced by the "Hitler agent" slander and, in fact, gave a larger vote for the Rank & File than they ever did before. Yet in no previous election of the painters has the Jewish Daily Forward strained such great effort for its darling boy Zausner than this time.

Having watched District Council 9 elections for several years the writer has been particularly struck by the bitterness and tenseness that marks the contests in this union. In no union are elections so hard-fought. The explanation is that it reflects the instability and insecurity in the painter's life. He is the most kicked-around worker in the building trades. He has no job security and doesn't know a few minutes before his work-day ends if he will be wanted on the next day. He is particularly vulnerable to all sorts of chiseling. He works short seasons.

The painter always dreams of protection for something better than a hand-to-mouth status, for security from sudden firing. This is at the bottom of all the bitterness in the painters' union. It is the struggle between the painter and those who thrive by exploiting his insecure state through job-selling or kick-back.

This condition is also at the bottom of the explosion of joy that burst out among the painters outside Windsor Palace when news of the ballot counting reached them. The union was saved from the Zausner gang. Instead of the old dreaded days returning, the door was open to a new day in the union—for Weinstock's program of union job control and return to the path of progress begun in 1936.

Utseu Leader Expected Here

Amalgamated

President Townsend Warn Transport Workers Against AFL

7-6-40

Local members of the United Transport Service Employees' Union, successor to the International Brotherhood of Red Caps, were awaiting the arrival of their national leader, Willard S. Townsend, this week following his two weeks' tour of the south.

Mr. Townsend is expected here this weekend. From the executive offices in Chicago, it was learned that the International President had warned local units to "steer clear" of the American Federation of Labor. The UTSEU is affiliated with the CIO.

According to Townsend, AFL officials helped to "gyp" Dallas, Texas, red caps out of $44,000 in the recent suit filed against railroads for back pay. The total amount won was $88.000. but the Brotherhood of Railway Clerks, a lily-white organization, demanded and got a "fifty-fifty-cut."

On his trip to New York, Townsend is also expected to make plans for the fight against legislation, now being considered by Louisiana lawmakers, to bar persons not entitled to vote from working for railroad companies. Among those scheduled to meet in executive conference with Townsend are John R. Lee, chairman of the general board; John L. Yancey, secretary-treasurer, and Sylvester Corrothers, general organizer.

MOST ENTHUSIASTIC section of the Brotherhood of Painters over the election of Louis Weinstock were members of the Harlem Negro Painters Club.

HARLEM LABOR UNION MEMBER UNDER ARREST

NEW YORK, Aug. 22—(ANP)—John Parris, 31, a salesman and a member of the Harlem labor union, was under bail of $350 this week, charged with collecting dues without authorization.

A petty larceny charge was filed against Parris by Joseph Urbina, owner of a restaurant. Urbina said Parris entered his restaurant and represented himself as a collector for the Harlem labor union. He was given $5 by the restaurant owner and after he left he discovered that he was an impostor.

Police were notified and Parris was arrested by Detective Cusberth, colored detective. His hearing will be held on August 21.

The Harlem labor union has long been fighting for jobs for colored white collar workers in Harlem. They have often been in the limelight during their years of fighting. While they have done some good in securing jobs for members, labor organizations claim they have been "racketeers."

A complete reorganization of the union was made early in the summer.

Red Caps' Head Denies Charges of Rival Faction

By JAMES H. HOGANS

NEW YORK — A bitter denial to recent charges made against him by representatives of the Atlantic City local of the newly organized Brotherhood of Railroad Station Porters, was issued here Friday, by Willard S. Townsend, president of the United Transport Service Employees.

Mr. Townsend, who was en route to St. Augustine, Fla., and had stopped over in New York to attend a mass meeting of the Grand Central and Pennsylvania Terminal red caps, made the denial in an interview just before leaving his stopping place for the meeting.

Neglect Charged

The charges in question were attributed to T. L. Palmer and C. L. Davenport, president and secretary, respectively, of the brotherhood's Atlantic City local.

In an AFRO story they were quoted as saying that the UTSEA president had failed to call a conference with the Pennsylvania-Reading Seashore Lines in behalf of the red caps, thereby giving the roads a leeway which worke to these employees' disadvantage.

Bankruptcy Hinted

Moreover, that the UTSEA was brankrupt, and therefore powerless to fight the well-organized railroads, all of which Mr. Townsend branded as statements of a subversive and untruthful character.

Explaining that the Pennsylvania-Reading was a separate division of the Pennsylvania Railroad, with which his organization has a contract, when asked how it was these red caps had been overlooked, replied: "They overlooked themselves."

B'KLYN LABOR GROUP TO CONTINUE DRIVE

NOV 9 1940

It was announced early this week that the Tompkins Theatre, Gates and Tompkins avenue, Brooklyn, signed with the Amalgamated Labor Union and now has a 100 per cent union staff.

The ushers, cashiers, doorman, matrons and porters of the Tompkins are now full-fledged members of the Amalgamated Union and are now reported as receiving the highest salaries in uptown Brooklyn.

Frank Schwartz and William Spiegel, managers of the Tompkins, in making announcement said that they "hoped that other theatres in uptown Brooklyn would do the same thing in an effort to give good salaries to employees."

Roy Worrell, union field secretary, said that his organization has secured 198 borough jobs since its formation in May of this year. He also indicated that the Amalgamated group will definitely continued the job campaign that it initiated in the uptown sector of the borough.

"Despite the fact that we have had eight injunctions against us in our effort to secure jobs," Worrell said, "we are going ahead with our drive. We know that Brooklyn Negroes are not receiving what they justly deserve, and we're not going to halt our drive until justice is done."

Negro Is The Head Of Strongest Building Trades Union In N. C.

L. E. Patton Organized Local at Raleigh in Which Whites Out-Number Race Members by 84 to 62.

By TED POSTON
(Staff Correspondent)

RALEIGH, N. C., April 18—Disproving the theory that white workworkers will not follow Negro leaders in the South, L. E. Patten, a veteran plasterer and trade union organizer, as president of the strongest building trades union in North Carolina.

Mr. Patten, a veteran trade unionist, who is regarded as the father of the organized labor movement in Raleigh, is president of Local 5 of the Brickmasons and Plasterers International Union A. F. of L. The local, one of the few mixed unions in the South, has 84 white members to 62 Negroes.

FIVE OF SEVEN UNION OFFICIALS COLORED

Although the whites outnumber the Negroes in the local which controls all construction in Raleigh and vicinity, five out of seven of union's officials are colored. And the 146 members meet together each Wednesday in the union hall in the Negro section of the city.

The success of Local 5, both white and Negro members agree, is the climax of a quarter century battle on the part of the veteran president to organize the building trades in the State's capitol.

The fight began back in 1916 when Mr. Patten and Frank J. Thurston, an Irish bricklayer, came here from Buffalo, N. Y. Both were members of Local 60 of the Operators, Plasterers and Cement Finishers International association, A. F. of L., in New York.

"There wasn't a union of any kind for industrial labor in Raleigh," Mr. Patten stated. "And the men only got 40 cents an hour for a 60-hour, six-day week."

NEGROES HAD MONOPOLY ON WORK BACK IN 1916

Negroes did all the construction work here then, he revealed. Not until 1922 did a handful of white boss plasterers and journeymen begin work in Raleigh.

The Negro and white trade unionists got busy in 1916, however and one year later founded Local 675 of the O. P. C. F. I. A. Mr. Patten was elected president and the memberhip rose to 40 in the next few years. In 1921, though, the organiezr left Raleigh and went to Florida to work and the local collapsed.

Two years later, in 1923, Mr Patten returned and reorganized the local and secured the same A. F. of L. charter. It flourished with 60 members under Mr. Patten's leadership until 1927 when the president again left town to work in California. The depression contributed to the collapse.

HAS BEEN HEAD OF LOCAL SINCE 1936

Mr. Patten returned to Raleigh the third time in 1930 and began his organization drive again. Finally in 1935, he organized the present Local 5 with 14 Negro members. The first white member, a tile-setter, was taken in later that year. Mr. Patten became the president of the local in 1936 and has continued in that position ever since.

The original membership of 14 has grown to 146 and the organized workers now receive $1.10 an hour for five-day 40-hour week. The plasterers are organized 100 per cent in Raleigh and the bricklayers 95 per cent. The union expects to close this gap in the near future.

Besides brickmasons and plasterers, the union membership includes tile-setters, marble and stone masons, cement finishers mosaic workers and mosaic tarozzel workers.

With the exception of last year Mr. Patten has been unanimously elected president of the mixed local. Last year he was opposed by a Negro candidate whom he overwhelmingly defeated.

PATTEN HAS TRAVELED ALL OVER AMERICA

Looking no more than 45 although he celebrated his 60th birthday, in February, Mr. Patten has plied his trade in every State in the Union and in Cuba, Canada and South America.

He served his apprenticeship and learned his trade in Illinois, but later attended Tuskegee Institute and graduated there in 1905. He became an expert plasterer although he had lost two middle fingers from his left hand in a chair factory accident in Chattanooga, Tenn., his native State.

Now having permanently settled in North Carolina, he lives with his wife, Mrs. Ella Patten, at Zebulon, a small town 20 miles from Raleight. They have no children.

Other officers of Local 5 include John K. McGeary, white, financial secretary; Jack Browning, white, corresponding secretary; John C. Davis, treasurer; Monroe James, chaplain, and William Fuller, deputy.

Fight For Race Bakers In Union

By GENE RAY

CLEVELAND, Ohio, Feb. 23—Although the lights went out while John O. Holly, founder-president of the Future Outlook League was speaking on the Negro Bread-Baker employer-union fight at Shiloh Baptist church Monday night that did not prevent the officers and committee from passing out several pounds of Brown Gal bread and cakes baked by members from the Future Outlook League at the Kritzer bakery.

Among the speakers on the platform were Councilman Augustus Parker, Mrs. Lethia C. Fleming, Assistant Police Prosecutor Perry B. Jackson and others. M. M. Lewis was master of ceremonies. When the lights went out everyone sat quietly while candles were lit and flashlights used.

Holly stated the league will create jobs for Race bakers and bakery drivers the same as it did for milk truck drivers in the Race neighborhoods ,and will obtain membership in the union for employees.

Elect Negro To Head Auto Union Local

This was proved again recently when workers at Midland Steel Co., organized into one of Cleveland's biggest and most militant local unions (UAW Local 486) elected a Negro worker as president.

The new president is Joseph Jackson, who previously served as vice-president, and was elected to the presidency following the resignation of President Mack Cheek.

Important in the action of the men who work in this plant was that color, apparently, was no factor in the selection of leadership by a local which is approximately 90 per cent white.

Negro Steel Workers Flocking to Join SWOC Lodges

DEC 20 1940

(Special to the Daily Worker)

CLEVELAND, O., Dec. 19.—The politicians become the "friends" of the Negro people before every election. Newspapers fake an interest in the "Negro problem," and employers finance propaganda designed to shift the blame for their own discrimination to white working people. But in democratic unions Negro and white workers get together, fight together and get things done for their common interests.

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OKLAHOMA

Priest Insists Negro Labor Build Church

OKLAHOMA CITY, Okla. — This city is still talking about Father Clement A. Roach, pastor of St. Peter Claver Roman Catholic Church, who stood his ground and spoke out loud when white labor unions tried to prevent his using Negro workers on the new church building.

Coming here from St. Peter Claver in Philadelphia to a parish without a church, he soon got funds for a building, let the contract but wrote into it that Negro labor should and must be used if obtainable," but the union said "No."

Quick to Decide

Father Roach was quick to decide: "Then let us use Negro union labor," he told the contractor, only to be told there were no black unionists because the union did not admit them.

"Then, Negroes will do this work whether they belong to unions or not," he said.

Negroes Employed

As a result Oklahomans are looking at a beautiful two-story structure of brick housing church, school rooms and recreation hall," and with Negroes doing the work—from digging to plumbing, to laying bricks, to finishing.

Father Roach came to this city preceded by reports of his liberal and militant stand in Philadelphia where, for twelve years, he was a member of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Farmer's Union To Send Delegation To Washington

Jan.—Determined to gain federal help for impoverished sharecroppers and tenant farmers, the Oklahoma Tenant Farmers' Union (CIO) is sending a delegation to Washington, D. C., to place their demands before President Roosevelt and Secretary of Agriculture Wallace. From all over the country the United Cannery, Agricultural, Packing and Allied Workers of America (CIO), to which the Oklahoma Tenant Farmer's Union is affiliated, are sending delegations to protest the impending cuts in Farm Relief appropriations.

Otis Nation, state organizer of the Oklahoma Tenant Farmer's Union, said that the farmers' condition in Oklahoma was becoming desperate and that the drouth would make conditions unbearable unless the federal government provided some aid.

"Oklahoma has been particularly hard hit," he said. "While the average farm tenancy in the United States is 42 per cent, Oklahoma has double that. Over 160,000 tenant farmers and sharecroppers in Oklahoma need rehabilitation. Their suffering is a disgrace to our country."

"The New Deal, which is planning to curtail relief to our impoverished farmers, has never given them a square deal. Starvation and misery are growing in rural areas. Bad health from inadequate diets menaces the children of the countryside with rickets, pellagra and 'malnutrition'—a polite word for starvation."

The delegation will interview W. W. Alexander, administrator for Farm Security Administration, to ask that benefits to sharecroppers and tenant farmers be increased and extended. "While the Farm Security Administration admits that 40,000 farmers in Oklahoma become tenants and sharecroppers every year," said Otis Nation, "they provide rehabilitation for only 10,000."

The program which the Oklahoma Tenant Farmer's Union and the United Cannery, Agricultural, Packing and Allied Workers of America consider necessary remedy these conditions will be presented to the President and the Secretary of Agriculture as follows:

1. Government action to end wholesale evictions that take place every December and January here in the South.

2. Action by the Farm Security Administration and Federal Housing Administration to keep decent shelter over our heads.

3. Enough relief during the winter months to keep our families from starving.

4. Changing laws at this session of Congress which will make payments of benefits to cotton landlords depend on the following requirements:

(a) Full legal sharing in the benefit checks.

(b) Written contracts between sharecropper-tenant and landlord.

(c) Holding of Federal wage hearings and the setting of a living wage which all growers must pay for work done on the crop before any benefits can be paid to the landlord.

Says Klan Members Of CIO Ousting Red Element

OKLAHOMA CITY, Okla.—(ANP)—Ku Klux Klan members of the CIO are quietly ousting Communists in that union from control, declared Imperial Wizard James Colescott here last week.

"Already we have gained control of some local unions and succeeded in electing Americans to office," Colescott asserted. "Understand, we are not soliciting Klan members from the ranks of the unions. Our canvass showed that we already have a larger representation."

The imperial wizard, touring the country to confer with leaders of the hooded order, said the Klan was working for legislation to deport unnaturalized aliens and to provide that "those who continue to preach revolution shall be put in concentration camps."

Colescott also said the Klan had "furnished much information" to the Dies committee investigating un-American activities. Efforts by several groups to have the Dies group investigate the Klan

TRAINMEN TO MEET IN OKLA.

More Than 18,000 Workers to Be Represented At Conference

OKLAHOMA CITY, April (ANP)—This city will become the rail center of the Nation on May 2, when delegates representing 18,000 colored employes of Southern and Middle West states will come here to attend the annual meeting of the Trainmen, Brakemen, and Porters' Union No. 21486 A. F. of L. Steve Bennett, national president, will preside.

During the session, all national officers will be elected as the term of office of those now heading the Union, ends in May.

The list of executive boards and representatives as announced by President Bennett, who are expected to attend this grand lodge session are:

Vernon C. Coffey, national representative to president, Kansas City, Kans.; U. V. Weathers, vice-president, St. Louis; W. McCullum, national treasurer, St. Louis; J. E. Bonion, trustee, St. Louis; S. Eslinger, trustee, Wichita, Kans.; H. Thomas, Kurn, trustee, Hugo, Okla.; P. Moppin, national representative, St. Louis; S. L. Howard, representative, Memphis; L. H. Hoyl, representative, Frisco Lines; H. Baylis, Kansas City, Kans.; Louis T. Brown, national auditor, Oklahoma City; John Vance Jenkins, secretary, Oklahoma City; Benjamin F. Gardner, representative, Union Pacific System, Omaha; W. M. Lindsey, Kansas City, Kans.; L. W. Fairchild, president, A. F. of L. Union, Missouri Pacific Lines; Omak Ezoll, representative, Gulf, Mobile & Northern System; Mack C. Spears, president, International Union of Railway Workers; representatives from the International Association of Railway Employees, and Association of Colored Railway Trainmen, and Colored Trainmen of America.

3 Senators To Go On Air For Anti-Lynch Bill

Organization of Listening Groups Urged by NAACP

WASHINGTON, D. C.—A nation-wide broadcast urging passage of the federal anti-lynching bill will be made April 29, by Senators Robert F. Wagner of New York, Mathew M. Neely of Virginia, and Arthur Capper of Kansas it was announced here Friday.

The broadcast has been arranged through the National Broadcasting Company over its Blue Network from 10:30 to 11 p. m. EST.

The three senators, who are staunch supporters of the bill, will insist that it be taken up before Congress adjourns and that it be given a chance to be voted on on its merits. They will denounce in advance any attempt at a filibuster.

It is their contention that the filibuster is undemocratic because it permits a very small minority of the Senate to block the will of the majority, not only of the Senate, but of the American public. It is expected that they will advocate the imposition of cloture (limitation of debate) in the event a filibuster should develop.

TELEGRAM URGE D

Walter White, NAACP secretary, issued a statement urging branches of the NAACP throughout the country and other groups and organizations to organize neighborhood listening parties and that immediately after the broadcast, listeners write or telegraph individually to Senator Alben W. Barkley, majority leader, Senate Office Building, Washington, asking him to set a definite date for the taking up of the anti-lynching bill.

Listeners also are urged to write or telegraph the senators from their states urging them to help bring the bill to a vote, to vote for it, and oppose any filibuster.

Listeners also are asked to write to President Roosevelt asking him to make a statement on the bill.

Trainmen To Hold Nat'l Meeting In Okalahoma

OKLAHOMA CITY, Okla., April 18 — The likelihood of a gathering of Union heads and leaders among the more than 18,000 Negro trainmen and other rail employees of the southeast, south and midwest, and representatives of rail employees from more than twelve trunk lines will be present at Oklahoma City, Okla., on Tuesday, May 2, was voiced here today by Steve Bennett National President of the oldest chartered Federal labor union representing colored railroad trainmen, brakemen and porters and other rail employees, affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, this Federal Charter being the first to be issued colored railroad men in these classifications.

According to National President Bennett, he has decided upon calling the parley nationwide in its representation, following inquiries from many isolated and independent labor organizations who represent a very large percentage of train brakemen, flagmen, switchmen, firemen and train porters in the south, which are seeking either a merger or to become affiliated with the trainmen, brakemen, porter division of this union for national protection, since this union now represents employees upon many trunk lines in the south; Bennett, authoritatively gave notice that during this brand session all national officers will be elected, as the term of office of those who now head the Trainmen, Brakemen and Porters Division will expire during May, and that he is expecting that the newly elected officers will be chosen from the many foreign representatives who will attend this session.

Bennett says the need for such a parley is "inexpressibly imperative in order to protect the positions held by Negro trainmen and others, and to formulate plans either for close cooperation or combination or both, as the plight of Negro trainmen and others is worthy of thought from our race as well are Negro rail union heads. He added: "A united front is what we need in our common problems, we can do much together in spirit and action while we can do but little alone or singly, the combining of our strength would be a potent factor in bringing about the objective of the various labor unions representing small misinformed groups of rail workers, and that self interest and petty jealousy should be side tracked for the good of all," he said, "and work to a solidity of brotherly love for the welfare of all colored rail employees."

The list of executive broads and representatives as disclosed by Bennett, who are expected to attend this grand lodge session are: Vernon C. Coffey, National Representative to President, Kansas City, Kans.; U. V. Weathers, vice president, Trainmen, Brakemen Union, St. Louis, Mo.; W. McCullum, National Treasurer, St. Louis, Mo.; J. E. Benton, trustee, St. Louis, Mo.; S. Eslinger, trustee, Wichita, Kans.; H. Thomas Kurn, trustee, Hugo, Okla.; P. Moppin, National Representative, St. Louis, Mo.; S. L. Howard, representative, Memphis, Tenn.; L. H. Hoyl, general representative Frisco Lines, H. Baylis, legislative representative, Kansas City, Kans.; W. M. Lindsey, legislative representative, Kansas City, Kans.; Louis T. Brown, National Auditor, Oklahoma City, Okla.; Vance Jenkins, secretary, Oklahoma City, Okla; Benjamin F. Gardner, general representative, Union Pacific System, Omaha, Nebr.; L. W [illegible] ident A. F. of L. Un [illegible] cific Lines; Omak Ezell, general representative, Gulf, Mobile and Northern System; Mack C. Spears, general president International Union of Railway Workers; representatives from the International Association of Railway Employees, and Association of Colored Railway Trainmen, and Colored Trainmen of America.

Catering Firm Is Picketed By Unionists

Firm Spokesman Sa Negroes "Catspaw For White Unions

75-YEAR-OLD FIR

Union Leader Threate Appealing To Centr Labor Union

By JOSEPH WOODS

That Negroes are the "ca paw" for exploiting white u ions was the reason a spoke man for the John W. Holla Catering company, 115 nor 19th street, gave Saturday f the picketing of the company by the waiters of Local 758, Catering Industry Employees union.

The local wants Holland's, a non-union concern, to agree to hire only union waiters, according to S. D. Amis, secretary-treasurer of 758, an A.F.L. branch.

Asserting that more than half the city's waiters are non-union, the Holland spokesman said that the men who joined the union would only 'hurt themselves."

Then he pointed out how Negro musicians in the local union had been fooled into unionizing, and then later barred from working in some places by the white local.

The picketing, the spokesman said, was a "scheme backed by white caterers to eliminate Holland's from the field."

SEEKS TO REGAIN TRADE

"The local (758) is merely the catspaw for the union to get new members and enrich itself at the Negroes' expense. White caterers are also using this occasion to regain some of the trade which Holland took away from them."

Founded 75 years ago, Holland's is the only large caterer who hires Negro waiters. At times it employs as many as 75 to 100.

Amis said the local had been unable to arrange an audience with the company, either by telephone or by letter.

The first action the local took, he said, was last December 28, when Holland's had a job at Convention Hall. Seeking to confer with the company's operators, several members of the local had gone ready to picket the affair, but were reluctant, and gave up the idea.

At that time, Amis stated, Holland's was employing both union and non-union men.

"We didn't want to picket, because we didn't want to make any trouble for the firm.

"We know that Holland's is colored and if it were eliminated, Negroes would be thrown out of work," he said.

DENIES WHITE BACKING

He denied that white caterers were backing the picketing, although they might be members of the union.

"We don't collaborate with employers so that they can rule us. Our orders come from the Local Joint Executive Board, and not from white caterers," he explained.

If the picketing failed to bring the company to terms, the local would apply to the Central Labor Union, which would impose a boycott, stopping food, music, and halls, Amis revealed.

Picketing would be indefinite, he said.

Elijah Hodges, a veteran waiter close to the situation also characterized the Negro as the "catspaw," and stated:

"The whole set-up has the earmarks of a racket in which Negroes are the 'catspaw.' The unions know that if Newman (head of Holland's) can be 'hog-tied,' Brown, James and Baptiste won't have a leg to stand on because when the big tree is torn up by the roots, the little trees begin to waver and finally fall into the cavity."

Pullman Porters Face Layoffs As U. S. Files Suit Against Company

Tribune
Philadelphia

Pullman porters throughout the country are casting a "significant eye" upon the monopoly case recently filed by the Department of Justice against the Pullman companies and 31 individuals in a civil action to sever control of sleeping car manufacture from operating of equipment.

Negroes are interested because as the suit progresses, it may tie up Pullman service, resulting in temporary unemployment for many thousands of Pullman workers.

The complaint charges Pullman companies with refusing to operate modern lightweight railroad equipment purchased by the railroads from any manufacturer other than the Pullman Standard Car Manufacturing Company, and threatening to withdraw the existing sleeping car service and operations if railroads should buy and operate themselves any cars made by other manufacturers.

Financial magnates named in the litigation are: J. Pierpont Morgan, Richard K. Mellon, Sewell L. Avery, Alfred P. Sloan, Jr., Harold S. Vanderbilt, George Whitney, C. W. Seabury, and H. S. Morgans, all directors of one or more of the companies.

"Artificial and unreasonably high prices for Pullman accommodations, and noncompetitive terms made with railroads furnished with sleeping car service by the Pullman organization through its alleged monopoly", has also been charged.

The Pullman company is said to own nearly 6,000 sleeping cars, many of which are more than 20 years old, and "in an endeavor to protest these obsolete cars from the competition of new types of rolling stocks, forced the railroads to use existing equipment and prevent them from operating lightweight, streamlined sleeping cars."

As a result, it was alleged, "the production of modern railroad equipment by independent manufacturers and its use by the railroads have been hamstrung."

The anti-trust division of the Department of Justice has been studying the Pullman company for some time, it was revealed, and is proceeding by civil action rather than by criminal action because the contracts between the Pullman organization and the railroads which contain provisions alleged to be in restraint of trade have been publicly recorded for many years with the Interstate Commerce Commis

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PORTERS AND MAIDS PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION

End Sixth Annual Convention Of Pullman Porters And Maids Protective Association

By PAUL E. X. BROWN

CHICAGO, Ill. — The Pullman Porters and Maids Protective Association, 543 East 47th street, ended their sixth annual convention with a manifestation of their appeal for national unity in the ranks of labor by retaining in office their entire official family without a dissenting vote.

The closing of the convention was marked with the passing of several resolutions, without an opposing vote. Among those resolutions adopted was announcing of the support of Wendell L. Willkie for President, and the appeal to all members of the Association to work during the year for peace and harmany in the ranks of the Pullman porters, maids and attendants.

President J. T. Reid in his annual address to the convention pointed out that every Pullman porter wanted peace and harmony for himself and family, but that it did not merely suffice to desire peace. He further stated, "Involved in the achievement of peace is the question of how the porters and maid will link themselves with their work. Many plans affecting Pullman porters have failed because they have failed to take account of the real underlying problems. We, ourselves, are our problems. When we face this fact instead of trying to escape, and try to make ourselves more worthy, try to give more than to get more, then the way out will be clearer."

Among the prominent persons who spoke to the convention were Hon. Werner W. Schroeder, Republican National Committeeman; Dr. Loring T. Swain, chairman of the staff of Robert Brigham Hospital in Boston, Mass.; John Wood of San Francisco, Calif.; Mrs. Sari Price Patton and Warren Scott of New York City, and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Scoville Wishard, international travelers and of Washington, D. C.

Greetings to the convention were received from Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, Hon. Arthur Capper of Kansas; Governor Harold Stassen of Minnesota, and Dr. Frank N. D. Buchman of San Francisco.

Dr. Buchman's message in part said: "You can give fresh life and power to the simple truths of honesty and unselfishness that must be applied daily by each of us in home, industry and government.

"What you have already done has appeared in the labor press on this coast and attracted the favorable attention of both AFL and CIO leaders".

The officers elected by this convention in its last sessions were: J. T. Reid, New York, president; C. E. Kendrick, New York, vice-president, and J. R. Reese, Chicago, secretary.

Jim-Crow Tactics Attacked

Maiden And Hartman Address Body

The 200 or more colored delegates who attended the Southern Labor Conference held at the City Auditorium during the week-end, raised their voices at the Sunday afternoon session and urged the American Federation of Labor to appoint additional full-time, paid Negro organizers, and to abolish racial discrimination affecting the relations of Negroes to union groups.

The race delegates stated their grievances in form of a resolution, drawn up Sunday morning following a conference Saturday night at the Butler Street YMCA. On the resolution committee were Cornelius Maiden, only full-time colored organizer on the A. F. of L. staff; Roy Batty, of the Laborers and Hod Carriers' Union, Nashville, Tennessee; R. F. Finkley, of the International Longshoremen's Association, Mobile, Alabama; Prof. Doxey A. Wilkerson, national vice-president of the American Federation of Teachers, Washington, D. C., and Paul Hartman, sixteenth vice-president of the International Longshoremen's Association, New Orleans.

The resolution was presented to the policy committee of the conference Sunday afternoon. It was then read to the entire audience of more than 2,000 persons. Upon the recommendation of the policy committee, the conference endorsed the resolution and recommended that it be passed on to the A. F. of L. executive committee for consideration.

MEMORANDUM OF THE SOUTHERN LABOR CONFERENCE FROM OVER 200 NEGRO DELEGATES

Atlanta, Georgia
March 2-3, 1940

BROTHERS AND SISTERS OF LABOR:

On Saturday evening, March 2 while other delegates sat in banquet with President William Green the Negro delegates assembled at the Butler Street YMCA to listen to President Green's address over the radio, to discuss our common problems, and to enjoy refreshments.

During the course of our discussion, there emerged several problems of fundamental importance to Negro trade unionists, and which a special committee was authorized to present to the Southern Labor conference as a whole. Your attention is directed to the following judgments and proposals of the Negro delegates.

FIRST, we applaud the splendid address of our President, Brother William Green, and reaffirm our loyalty to the American Federation of Labor, and our determination to organize additional thousands of Negro workers under the banner of our great Federation.

SECOND, we urge the appointment of additional full-time, PAID Negro organizers by the Federation and by its international affiliates. At present, there is only one full-time paid Negro organizer on the staff of the A. F. of L., and there are no Negro organizers on the staffs of many international affiliates. If A. F. of L. is to be effective in organizing the unorganized Negro workers, necessarily must it correct this great deficiency in its staff of Negro organizers.

THIRD, we call for the complete abolition of racial discrimination affecting the relations of Negroes to union groups. Specifically do we protest against the following types of discrimination practiced by certain A. F. of L. unions: (1) the refusal to issue charters to certain groups of Negro workers; (2) the issuance of "federal" charters to Negro workers, thus depriving them of full participation in the benefits of A. F. of L. membership; and (3) the deliberate barring of Negro union members from employment on many union contracts. It should be emphasized that these discriminatory practices do not characterize all affiliates of the A. F. of L. However, their existence in a number of internationals results in a very real economic handicap to Negro workers. Further, they make ever harder the task of organizing the unorganized Negro workers into the American Federation of Labor.

We respectfully urge upon the Southern Labor Conference full endorsement of the proposals set forth above.

THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE OF NEGRO DELEGATES, Roy Batty, Laborers and Hod Carriers Union, Local 368, Nashville, Tenn., Chairman
R. F. Finkley, International Longshoremen's Association, Local 1410, Mobile, Alabama.
Doxey A. Wilkerson, National Vice-President of the American Federation of Teachers, Howard University, Washington, D. C.
Paul Hartman, International Vice-President of Longshoremen's Association.

Introduced to the conference at the afternoon session by Organizer Maiden, Mr. Hartman became the second Negro to address the labor group. Mr. Maiden delivered a timely talk Saturday afternoon.

Hartman told his hearers that it should be known by now that the colored members were seeking decent wages and working hours more so than social equality. He suggested that it is better for the white people to lift the Negro up to their level than to have to come down themselves to the colored man's standards.

Prof. Wilkerson, a winning and effective speaker, was unable to address the conference due to the fact that he found it necessary to attend another meeting.

Mr. Maiden, who was responsible for the entertainment and lodging of colored delegates, will remain here until Wednesday. He will meet this morning with white representatives of the A. F. of L. and International officers.

After leaving here, he will go to Birmingham and then to Knoxville and Nashville where he will conduct labor investigations. He will report his findings to President William Green.

Freight and baggage handlers and red caps met with Mr. Maiden Sunday afternoon.

It was learned officially that the colored carpenters were organized and a charter drawn up at another Sunday meeting.

President Green in his Sunday afternoon address denounced charges of racketeering within the A. F. of L. and invited an investigation. He shouted defiance to "foes of organized labor" and said the federation would endure as long as the nation itself.

President Green directed his attack at Columnist Westbrook Pegler.

The conference adopted a 16-point program, mostly re-indorsing aims of the federation.

TENANT UNION IS GIVEN RECOGNITION AT DYESS

Named Bargaining Agent For Members At Colony

WASHINGTON, March 2. — (AP) — The Southern Tenant Farmers Union obtained recognition from the Farm Security Administration today as a bargaining agency for its members at Dyess Colony, rural homestead project in Mississippi County, Ark.

Dr. Will Alexander, FSA administrator, granted the union recognition after its secretary, H. L. Mitchell of Memphis, presented evidence that more than two-thirds of the 340 heads of families at the Government-owned project were members of the union and wanted it to bargain for them in management of the project.

Dr. Alexander said he would grant similar recognition to any group on any FSA project, whether it be a union or not, as long as it represented a majority.

Mitchell declared the FSA recognition would pave the way for unization of sharecroppers and tenants on privately-owned cotton plantations. He said the S. T. F. U. would launch a campaign to obtain landlord recognition.

Dyess Colony is a community of small cotton farms, most of the colonists having agreements to purchase the land they now cultivate. Projected conferences between the FSA and a union committee would involve financing of farm purchases, methods of paying loans and rentals, and discipline of the colonists.

Tenant Farmers Union V.P. Here

F. R. Betton, vice president of the Southern Tenant Farmers Union who with his wife, is visiting Mr. and Mrs. John Cherry, of 4247a W. Page boulevard, their daughter and son-in-law.

Betton is one of the four colored national officers of the militant S.T.F.U. which was formed in 1934 by seven Negroes and ten whites and has spread to seven southern states and grown to 75,000 members. The organization fights for rights of tenant farmers, sharecroppers and day laborers. It will become affiliated with the C.I.O., Sept. 30.

Betton resides in Cotton Plant, Ark. He has served as a justice of the peace 10 years, school teacher 31 years, school director 16 years and is a deacon and Sunday School teacher at the New Home Baptist Church.

STRIKE IN BUSINESS SECTION

Courier

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn., May 23 —(ANP)—A wave of protest by local residents has followed calling of a strike in the Ninth street colored district last Saturday. Negro businessmen are complaining of loss of trade because of the presence of hundreds of strikers, white and colored—who are picketing that section.

Two colored liquor stores have closed, it is said, and other places have been affected by the labor dispute, which reportedly centers about a street-widening construction project, between Douglas and Lindsay streets.

Some sources declared that non-union workers from Atlanta and a contractor are responsible for the trouble. It was stated that, should the occasion require, a troop of the State militia would be called out to protect pedestrians, but so far none has been harmed.

Memphis, Tenn., Review
November 1, 1940

Unions' Stand On Negroes Is Lauded

WASHINGTON.—Discrimination against Negroes in defense jobs will be rigidly opposed by all branches of organized labor, Sidney Hillman, labor member of the National Defense Advisory Commission, revealed this week. He lauded the unions for taking this tolerant stand.

Maritime Union Is Victorious

Daily World

MEMPHIS, Tenn.—(SNS)—Another battle in the effort of colored workers to gain fair treatmet, wages, and conditions of work was won this past week, with the announcement that five colored men, fired from their jobs on Mississippi River barges here, have been given their jobs back, on orders of government officials in Washington, D. C.

William R. Henderson, Jr., white, Memphis agent for the National Maritime Union announced the victory last Saturday. Mr. Henderson was among those who testified at the recent hearing here, when Mr. John P. Davis, secretary of the National Negro Congress, assisted Major A. T. Moore in bringing out the facts connected with the firing of the men.

Mr. Henderson received a copy of a letter written by Brigadier General Thomas M. Robins, assistant to the chief of U. S. Engineer. The later had been written to Mr. Davis. In esses, the letter 'restored' to their former jobs the five men, who charged they were fired for making complaints about their working hours as employees of the Memphis District, United States Engineers, located in West Arkannsas, just opposite Memphis.

The men are members of the Inland Beatmen's Division of the National Maritime Union, an affiliate of the Congress for Industrial Organization. A hearing of their case was held here in June by Major Moore, attached to the Chief of Engineers Office in Washington.

The men who got their jobs back are Louis H. Aldrige, Willie Metcalf, Johnny Webster, Robert Sutton, and Leslie Artis.

After having their oigina complaint to officials of the Barge Lines on which they worked, and receiving no satisfaction, the men's next move was to complain to their union representatives. The officials took the matter up with the government officials in Washington. The colored men also made a complaint to the headquarters of the National Negro Congress.

Following the hearings, and Major Moore's and Attorney John Davis' report to government officials in Washington, the letter from General Robins was sent to Mr. Davis, and later a copy sent to Mr. Henderson here.

General Robins' letter also made mention of another matter of grievence which was brought out at the Memphis hearings, a matter which affected both white and colored workers. This is in regard to the deductions made from the river worker's pay for meals.

The general's letter stated that when men who are receiving subsistence and quarters, are absent from two or more consecutive meals and who give due notice of their intent to be absent, under regulations to be prescribed, no deduction will be made for subsistence not furnished the employees."

Mr. Henderson said that at present when employees are away from their dredge boats on their off days, they have been required to pay board. He added that the new regulations will save the dredge boat worker from $6 to $10 a month if he is off the boat when not working.

Birmingham, Ala. News
July 7, 1940

Union Meetings Okeh On Government Boats

MEMPHIS, Tenn.—(AP)—All National Maritime Union (CIO) employes of the U. S. etaoinetaoinC employes of the United States engineers will be allowed to hold union meetings on government boats, as result of a ruling handed down in a labor case concerning the Memphis district.

Reinstating four Negro workers discharged for making alleged false statements in letters to congressmen, Brig. Gen. Thomas M. Robins, assistant to the chief of engineers, set down three rulings affecting all United States engineers employes.

1. Union employes can meet on government boats on their own time, as long as meetings are open and do not interfere with operations.

2. Men receiving subsistence and quarters no longer will be required, when absent with due notice, to pay for meals they do not eat.

3. All efficiency ratings of employes will be made public.

Four Negroes in the Memphis district complained they were working more than the regulation 44 hours a week. The Memphis district discharged them, labeling the assertions false. The other three rulings resulted from complaints made by other employes in the subsequent hearing.

Want Negro Workmen On YWCA Bldg.

NOV 9 1940

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn., Nov. 7 —"In all fairness to our race mechanics who are properly unionized, we feel that some of the skilled work on our colored Y.W.C.A. should be given to our people," said Odell Lowery, president of the Carpenters' Local No. 2216, in announcing Thursday that every effort is being made to obtain employment for Negro skilled workmen on the $16,000 remodeling project for the building occupied by the Phyllis Wheatley branch of the Young Women's Christian Association here.

Courier

Lowery stated he has already held conferences with a special committee and Z. W. Whetland of the Central Committee trustees, in support of the campaign launched for the inclusion of colored artisans and mechanics in the working crews that will carry out the remodeling job. A contract for the project has already been let to a local contractor, and work will be started in the immediate future.

INDEPENDENT UNION AT HUGHES TOOL STILL BARGAINING AGENCY· WORKERS NOT DISTURBED OVER NLRB RULING

Negro Labor News 4-13-41

HTC Club To Hold Annual Election At P. P. Hall Sunday; All Officers Seek Re-election; Little Opposition; R. H. Guess, President for 16 Years; Affairs of Organigation In Fine Shape; Largest Colored Independent Union In South

Houston, Texas

--The rumors that most of the 2700 employes at the Hughes Tool Company would line up with the CIO since a National Labor Relations Board examiner recommended that the company cease recognizing the independent unions as bargaining agencies, were set at naught this week when a new contract was signed at the Hughes Tool Company by the Employes Welfare Organization representing the white employes and the HTC Club representing the colored employes.---The new contract call for substantial wage increases and improved working conditions.

Both the white and colored unions seem undisturbed over the recommendation of the labor board examiner. Representatives from both organizations report that they intend to remain independent. They say "Our rights to an independent union have not and cannot be denied. This is still free America and workers are still free men and cannot be compelled to join any union against our will. The courts have made it clear workers are free to join any union of their own choosing."

Colored Employes Satisfied

Ignoring the propaganda being spread against independent unions and the rumors that the board has ordered the independent union at Hughes Tool killed and a refund of all dues collected from workers, the H. T. C. club, representing the colored workers at the Hughes Tool plant, say they are satisfied with their union. Officials of the club say they have received all the monies collected through the office and the company does not owe them any dues. The financial report shows that since 1934 the organization has handled nearly $200,000 in dues, memberships, revolving loans, sick and burial benefits. It has contributed liberally to charitable institutions and civic activities including the community chest, YMCA and the Negro Chamber of Commerce. The organization publishes annually an audited report of all its financial affairs. None of the officials of the union receive salaries for their services rendered, only honorems are given at the will of the membership which averages around $10 to $15 per month per person.

Guess Heads Organization Since Its Beginning

Richard H. Guess, second and present president of the HTC Club has directed the organization for nearly 16 years. He succeeded the late Joe Polk who was elected first president and served only a short period before his death. Mr. Guess who heads the largest independent colored organization in the South, is one of Houston's most respected citizens He is superintendent of the Sunday school, secretary and deacon of the Fourth Missionary Baptist Church. He is a member of the colored YMCA board; one of the vice presidents of the Houston Negro Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Guess also stands high in the fraternal world. He is commander in-chief Douglass Burell Consistory No. One of Houston, 32nd degree; treasurer Heights Lodge No. 280 F. and A. M.

It is said that the only charge the opposition has against Mr. Guess is that "he is too exact as to how the organization's money should be spent." Reports show that less than $40.00 has been lost or unpaid through loans at the rate of $30,000 a year under his administration.

Recently, when it became necessary that the union employ a full time secretary to handle its fiscal affairs, Mr. Guess recommended a young man to the postion over demands from members that he assume the place. Mr. Guess said, "I have a good job and I think we should give the place to some young man."

From what could be learned this week there will be little opposition to the present officers at the election. George O. Duncan, one of the most dynamic characters in the organization, and one time a foe to the present administration, said that he is for reelecting the present officers one hundred per cent including Philip Page as treasurer and George Ballansaw as secretary.

NEGROES ASK AFL TO MOVE COLOR BAR AT DALLAS CONFAB

22 Race Delegates Attend District Meet; William Green Explodes At Quiz On Racketeer And Ex-Convict Leader

DALLAS, Texas.—The Negro delegation to the Southwest District Conference of the American Federation of Labor held here Saturday and Sunday, April 20-21, made it known that "the American Federation of Labor could not make progress in organizing Negro workers unless racial discrimination was eliminated."

The 1700 delegates and many of the national officials met to start a new campaign to increase the membership strength in the South to 250,000 within a year.

The conference, composed of workers from Texas, Oklahoma, New Mexico and Arkansas, was addressed by William Green, 67-year-old president of the organization. Mr. Green, charged that John L. Lewis, head of the CIO, was the greatest enemy labor ever had.

To Organize Sawmills

Mr. Green said the AFL had been successful in organizing practically all of the lumber workers in New Mexico section, all but 15 per cent had come under the AFL banner Now, he said, "we are concentrating in the mills, smelters and pot ash fields. We are going to organize all kinds of industries including white collar workers.

Quizzed On Racketeer Leader

The white haired president is reported to have gone into a "fit" when he was asked about the arrest of George Scalise, president of the

GAL 39 Labor News—Young ---

Building Service Employes International Union, an AFL affiliate, with a membership of more than 75,00 Scalise is under a bond of $40,00 in New York on charges of extorting $100,000 from hotels and cleaning contractors. "I knew that's what you were going to ask me, Mr. Green shouted. I have no comments to make, except that we feel our judgment should be reserved until he be given a fair and impartial trial."

Said To Be ExConvict

Westbrook Pegler, columnist. revealed recently that Scalise had served a four year penitentiary term for white slavery; that he lives in a 27-room mansion with an adjoining seven car garage in Connecticut; that he earns $25,000 a year and expenses from the union without ever having been voted into office by the union membership.

The charges against Scalise and his two co-defendants were that they conspired to extort money by force and "fear" from twenty hotels and eleven firms doing cleaning business. Their system was said to have been to demand a large wage increase with the threat to unionize the firms' employes or to picket them, to drop the demands on payment of money. It is said that some of the firms had been forced to pay from $1000 to $5000 to avoid trouble

Negro Labor News 4-27-40
Houston, Texas

FACTS ABOUT THE GRAND PRIZE BEER

Last week the Negro organizers and representatives of the American Federation of Labor (and C. I. O. too), headed by R. R. Grovey, William (Preacher) Jones and Carter Wesley, were boasting that the Negroes of Houston had scored a victory when the fifty-odd Negro laborers employed at the Gulf Brewing Company were granted a charter as an affiliate of the A. F. of L. Facts around the situation are interesting. When one reads from a local Negro weekly they get the impression that Negroes were snatched from the worst labor exploiters that possibly exist and are now headed toward better wages and working conditions through their union.

The scale of wages paid at the Grand Prize, with a few exceptions, is from five to twenty cents higher than the union scale and is from ten cents to twenty-five cents higher than that required by the Wage Hour Law under which the workers come.

There are few Negroes employed on jobs that come under the jurisdiction of the brewery workers union. On several occasions the brewery's union asked that the Negroes employed on semi-skilled jobs be replaced. But since most of these workers have been empolyed with the company for a long time and have fine records, the union, which refused to take Negroes in, entered into an agreement not to interfere with their jobs. Everything was reported going well, wages and work hours were satisfactory, so in order to get a union somebody started the "propaganda" that if the Negroes did not join a union, they would all lose their jobs. Of course this is one of the tricks of organizers.

We understand that two or three of the workers got together and waited on R. R. Grovey, president of the Third Ward Civic Club, as to advice on what to do. Grovey called a meeting at his shop with about twenty or more workers of the company present. From there the meeting was finished at the Third Ward Civic Club Hall. William Jones, I. L. A. organizer, met with the group and he and Grovey persuaded the men that it was best to sign up with the A. F. of L.; that they would lose their jobs unless they did. When some of the workers inquired about working conditions and increased pay, they were told all that would come up later.

We have no objection to workers organizing. We believe in and advocate organization and collective bargaining, and we don't blame the workers for trying to get more money for what they do and to better their working conditions generally, but we are opposed to labor organizers and racketeers scattering propaganda designed to create fear and coerce workers into joining unions simply for the purpose of getting membership dues and initiation fees. We are told that the fees paid by the Grand Prize workers alone amounted to nearly $200. In unions the organizers usually get the greater portion of the initial joining fees. So, it is obvious that the organizers were not working for their health, but for a nice sum made easy in a few hours from oratory and catch phrases.

If Organizer Grovey were sincere in his announcement that the Third Ward Civic Club would work for the advancement of workers through its labor committee, headed by George Henderson who represents an independent union, which Grovey says is good why did he (Grovey) not turn the matter of the beer workers over to that committee when the men called upon him? No, Grovey knew that a great portion of the members of his labor committee are members of the Dock Workers Association, an independent union.

The Dock Workers have been deceived once by the A. F. of L. trickery and left with the bag to hold. A report comes to us that Grovey did not even tell Henderson of the matter.

From reliable sources we understand that Grovey called the Henke workers out to the Third Ward Civic Club and tried to high pressure them into signing up with the teamsters union, which union bars Negroes from driving beer and soda water trucks. Some accepted his advice, went on strike. Where are they now? What became of the thirty or more Negroes who went on strike at the Frederick Produce Company several months ago? They are still picketing.

If A. F. of L. unions offer so much job security, why is it that 35 workers were let out at the Clinton Docks almost immediately after the unions and the company signed their contract with the I. L. A.? These workers were formerly independent. What of the laundry workers who affiliated with the A. F. of L. who went on strike in 1938? Where are they? There are the A. F. of L. Negro automobile mechanics and semi-skilled workers who went on strike in 1937. Some of these workers have not had work in the automobile industry since, nor regular employment anywhere.

If the bona-fide unions offer so much security to Negro workers and are interested in their problems, as Grovey and Wesley say they are, why are Negro skilled workers barred on the Cuney Homes Federal Housing project here? If permitted to work Negroes would earn more than one dollar per hour.

We hope Negroes will not be deceived and led up a blind alley by would-be labor leaders who are becoming interested in the welfare of workers overnight and when they see an opportunity for prestige and personal gain, nor throw away the jobs they have by joining unions without making a thorough investigation as to the protection they can and will give them.

FEHR BAKING COMPANY EMPLOYS 15 RACE WORKERS

The above picture is of the fifteen competent and trusted employes of Fehr Baking Company. Some of the workers have been employed with the company since its establishment here. The group of workers are planning to attend the Bronze Mayor inagural and the Workers Institute in a body. The employes left to right are: J. D. Harrison, Robert Childress, Eddie Rochelle, James Warren, Leroy Rochelle, Usylsees Maxie, Woody Gardner, Freeman Wiley, Kiggo Holland, James Davis, A. C. Milligan, Clyde Thornton, George Davidson, E. Franks, Fulton Johnson.

DEMONSTRATOR

MRS. C. HOUSTON-THOMPSON

Whites Force Race Workers Off Press Job For Informer

NOV 2 1940

Labor union discrimination flared again at Houston this week when several white mechanics went on strike Friday morning at The Houston Post when Negro mechanics began dismantling a large press recently purchased by The Informer Publishing Company, a Negro owned and operated concern.

The Negro workers gained admittance to the plant without any difficulties and had worked several hours in dismantling the press. Suddenly all white mechanics working in the plant on another job, walked out upon orders from their union headquarters.

The cause of the trouble was, it is reported, that the union has a rule "not to work with non-union help" and it is understood that Negroes are bared from membership in the union.

The cost of transfering and dismantling of the press it is rep will cost around $1,000. This have gone to Negro workers had not been for the action of the union.

Carter W. Wesley is general manager of The Informer Publishing Company.

Negro Carpenters Discharged From Housing Project

NOV 2 1940

SAN ANTONIO, Texas — More il was added to the flame which has been burning here centered around the Wheatley housing project, a low-cost Goverment Housing Project, last week when the local Building and Construction Trades Council openly, flatly and completely refused to work with the Negro carpenters on the project which resulted in their dismissal.

The San Antonio Negro Chamber of Commerce and the Building Trades Association (colored) have betn holding conference with housing project officials and officials of the white union to no avial.

Despite, the fact that the Govern-

rment Contract on low-cost housing rojects calls for 3.3 per cent of the killed work to go to Negroes, the union has balked and threatens to trike if the contract is fulfilled to the justice of the Negro skilled workers.

More shameful in the controversy, or as equally shameful, is the fact hat the local housing project directors and the district director from Fort Worth have added in the discriminatory practices by refusing to arry out the law of the contract.

WORKERS AT LOCAL PLANT FORM NE INDEPENDENT UNION; B. J. LEWIS NAME PRESIDENT; MEMBERS ENTHUSIASTIC

NOV 16 1940

Nearly 200 colored workers of the Hughes Tool Company met last Sunday and completed formation of a new independent union, which will be known as Local No. 2 of the Independent Metal Workers Union. The union formed is affiliated with the white organization recently organized by the white workers after the National Labor Relations Board ordered a dissolution of the Welfare Association and the HTC Club.

While affiliated with the white union the colored organization will operate separately and will have power to enact, modify, amend its by-laws and handle its own affairs without interference from the parent body. The organization will provide hospitalization and burial benefit.

B. J. Lewis, who has been named president of the new organization said every step it taken to conduct the organization according to the Wagner Labor law, which gives workers the right to form and join any type of union they choose without company interference. Lewis instructed his organizing agents not to accept any applications on company property at any time.

Other officers of the organization are: S. B. Grant, vice president; R. M. Grant, secretary; Lee Henderson, treasurer. Those named organizing agent are: E. M. Martin, Garfield Barnett, Charles Chargois, A. A. Tucker, J. E. Mosely, Morris Sams, James Macklin, Harold Smith and J. R. Henderson. Those workers interested in joining the new organization are asked to contact the agents named.

AS I SEE IT

By C. W. RICE

NEGRO WORKERS IN TEXAS HAVE FAIRLY GOOD YEAR OF EMPLOYMENT; LESS LABOR TROUBLES THAN IN MOST SECTIONS; UNION LEADERSHIP TO BE COMMENDED.

DEC 28 1940

As I See It Negro workers o every class in Texas can look back over the year with Thanksgiving. Nowhere in the Lone Star State from the Red River to the Gulf or from Texarkana to El Paso have there been noticeable wholesale layoffs or stoppage of work affecting Negro workers. There have been no major strikes nor wage reductions. On the other hand, there have been gradual increases in employment and in wages. The farmers have been able to sell their products at a slight increase over those of the last two years.

Negro workers generally are still employed in most of their traditional jobs. In domestic service in the cities they hold around 70 per cent of the work. On the saw mills about 60 per cent of the work is given Negro labor. Over half of the dock work is done by Negroes. Negroes are still employed in large numbers on railroads, iron factories, tool plants, machine shops. Thousands of race workers are employed in cleaning and dyeing plants over the state. Many are employed as truck drivers despite the efforts of some labor unions to replace them. Negroes are still carrying the keys to office buildings as trusty porters. On WPA there has been little if any complaint as to Negroes getting their share of the work.

As I See It while other parts of the country have been disturbed with labor troubles, strikes and violence Negro workers in Texas have been able to go peacefully about their work. Texas is about the only state engaged in a large saw mill industry and has not had any stoppage due to labor troubles. More than 3000 Negroes are employed in various plants that constitute the majority of mill workers in the state. Evidently, they have steered clear of trouble-makers and labor agitators.

There have been no major strikes on the docks at Houston or other Texas ports for the past several years. This is due largely to race leadership in the unions headed by Freeman Everett, Wm. (Preacher) Jones, W. J. Nelson, Tom Isaacs, Ned Weathers, C. A. Harris, John Burts, John A. Fowlkes, William Bowie, J. Henderson and others who work in official capacity.

I might say in passing that while there is so much talk of racketeering and graft in colored labor unions especially in some affiliate unions of the American Federation of Labor, I have reason to believe that these charges are not laid to the Houston branches of organized labor. Most of them are attempting to buy property, care for their sick and bury their dead. Moreover, the leadership is among our respected colored citizens.

As I See It the Negro workers' main objectve should be to secure and hold steady employment with living wages. They should continue in 1941 as in 1940 to ignore outside agitators and troublemakers. Texas is the brightest state in the union for race workers and Houston is the brightest city. Let us help keep the state and city free of labor troubles.

LABOR - 1940
UNIONS-STRIKES ETC.

UNITED AUTOMOBILE WORKERS

Auto Workers Vote to Back Anti-Lynch Bill

Chicago Sun
OCT 13 1940

NEW YORK, Oct. 10—Delegates to the recent convention of the United Automobile Workers of America, affiliated with the C. I. O., held in Detroit, voted unanimously to give "active support for the passage of the Federal Anti-lynching bill," according to a report received today by the N. A. A. C. P.

Copies of the resolution, the report said, were sent to the Governor of Tennessee, where the horrible lynching of N. A. A. C. P. official Elbert Williams took place; the N. A. A. C. P., Congress, and President Roosevelt.

Negro Delegates at Miners Convention

More than 300 Negroes were among the 2,400 delegates who attended the Golden Jubilee Convention of the United Mine Workers in Columbus, O., recently. Photo shows, left to right, Mr. and Mrs. Clifton Poole. Mr. Poole is president of Local 4787 of California, Pa. Also shown are W. L. Williams, delegate from Local 6281 of McRoberts, Ky., and Pearl Elkins, financial secretary of Local 6281.

LABOR- 1940
UNIONS, STRIKES, ETC,

UNEMPLOYMENT, POLITICAL ACTION, UNITY, FEATURES OF UNITED MINE WORKERS' CONVENTION AT COLUMBUS

Courier 2-10-40 Pittsburgh, Pa.

By HORACE R. CAYTON

(Author of "Black Workers in the New Unions")

(See PICTURES, FULL PAGE, 12)

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COLUMBUS, Ohio, Feb. 8.—Nearly three thousand delegates, representatives of 600,000 miners, white and black, met here in their golden jubilee last week in the heart of the richest nation on earth and confronted as their most challenging problem unemployment affecting ten million hungry and without shelter in this land of plenty.

From the shadows of the spectre created by this vast army of unemployed emerged a haunting, taunting reality, the fact that steadily more and more men, white and black, from among the ranks of the poor are being put out of jobs and that no important attempt has been made to stop the flow of men from jobs to idleness or to reverse the current and put men back to work.

It was this reality which impelled John L. Lewis, leonine president of the great United Mine Workers to belabor the responsible agencies in the federal government and outside government for failure to act, to try for a solution of the problem.

Thus the major problem before the conference of the United Mine Workers of America was that of unemployment; the most important decision taken by the conference was to refer political action, including the third term issue, to the executive committee (which means Mr. Lewis), and the outstanding characteristic of the convention was the unity of the organization.

In Chicago, for example, although Negroes constitute approximately seven per cent of the total population, over 40 per cent of the relief population are Negroes and it is estimated that over 50 per cent of the total population of the city are on relief or the WPA.

Some students of the problem believe that the Negro will constitute the greater proportion of the chronically unemployed group and will thus be the target for the reactionary elements in the country who wish to fight an economic problem by employing race hatred as was done in Germany.

Lewis and the mine workers were concerned with this problem because they knew that the CIO movement, being strongest in the mass production industries, could never be secure until some method of giving a degree of security for unemployment is developed. At the present time Lewis, the mine workers, and the CIO are the only organized forces which are energetically and effectively fighting for the unemployed millions against the cuts of relief, the WPA and the PWA.

In this question there can be but one logical position for the Negro and that is side by side with Lewis and his group. Not since the days of the Knights of Labor has organized labor articulated so well the problems of Negroes.

Lewis told the convention that he had requested President Roosevelt sometime ago to call a conference of the representatives of labor, business and farmers to "at least talk about the problem, even if they wouldn't do anything about it." The convention went on record approving the calling of such a conference.

DELEGATES STAND BEHIND LEWIS

The most spectacular speech given before the convention was that in which Mr. Lewis condemned the last term of Roosevelt's administration and predicted that if he ran again he would go down to ignominious defeat.

The official summary of the 1938 convention stated that "it was a toss-up who was the more popular with the miners—John L. Lewis or Franklin D. Roosevelt." When Lewis dropped his bomb-shell into the convention the hall was silent and tense.

But if there was a question as to the relative popularity of the two men in 1938, there was none in 1940.

Two days after this speech a resolution was offered to the body which was to put in the hands of the executive board the responsibility for any political action on the part of the organization.

The debate which followed illustrated the democratic procedures which characterize the union. Delegate after delegate spoke, some favoring the resolution, others opposing it—all were favorable to Roosevelt, but all were loyal to the wishes of John L. Lewis.

The sentiments of the overwhelming majority of the miners were expressed by Haywood Banks, a Negro delegate from Piper, Ala., when he took the floor and stated, "Folks, I am for Mr. Roosevelt, but more for our executive offices."

E. D. Hosey, another Negro delegate from Minde, W.Va., though favoring the resolution, stated that he did not want the public to get the opinion that the miners were against Roosevelt. Thomas Farmer, still another Negro delegate from Morgantown, W.Va., brought the house down when he shouted into the microphone:

"President Lewis knows what he is talking about. My whole heart is back of Mr. Lewis and the executive board. I'll support Mr. Lewis until hell freezes over. If he don't want Mr. Roosevelt, then I am not for Mr. Roosevelt. If he wants Senator Wheeler, I am for Senator Wheeler."

The resolution was carried with an overwhelming majority so that "no party could take labor's vote for granted."

NEGRO DELEGATES SOLID IN SUPPORT

The Negro delegates were unanimous in their approval of the resolution. Wilfred Dickerson, a young Negro unionist from West Virginia said:

"The convention sees the importance of not giving support to any political party. The results of this conference will be the laying of the ground-work for a great political labor party. Through such a labor party the laboring man—Negro and white—will get the best type of representation."

John Hempfield, of West Marand County, Pa., stated: "It would not have been wise to endorse a candidate at this time. Let Lewis keep them guessing."

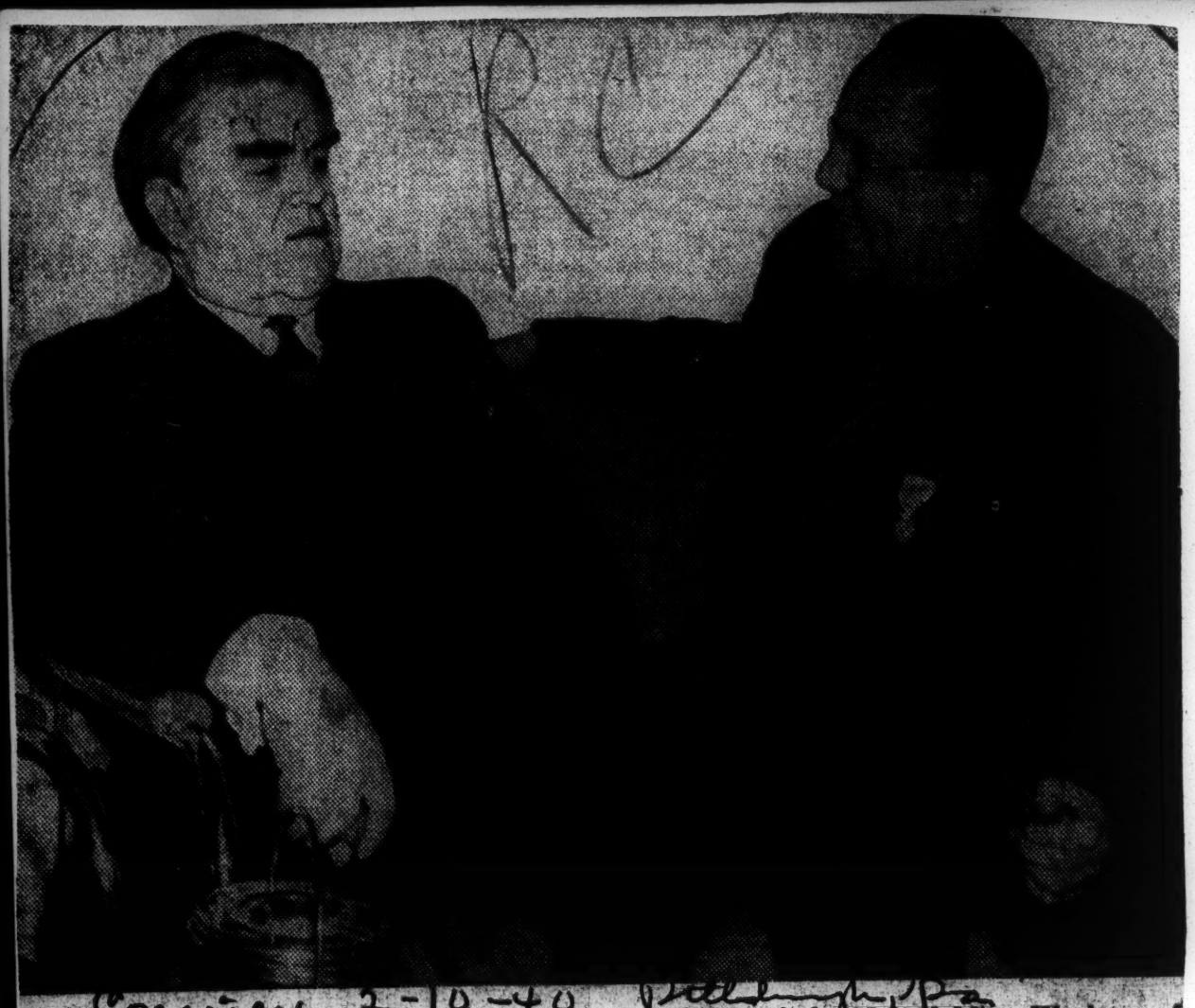
The Negro delegates liked Roosevelt personally, even better than did the white delegates. However, it was evident that their primary loyalty belonged to their union.

To this observer, it seemed that through the United Mine Workers and the other CIO organizations Negro workers will have a greater participation in the choosing of the next Presidential candidate than they will through the regular political organizations.

Further, labor will raise issues as to the candidates' stand on such vital questions to the Negro population as social security, unemployment, the right to organize unions, civil rights, and housing and health measures, rather than the appointment of a Negro to some office or the distribution of campaign funds. Perhaps the unions might even protect the Negro workers against the propaganda of many of their own "so-called" leaders.

THE QUESTION OF NEGROES IN UNIONS

The question of whether Negroes should join the miners' union is no longer open to debate. They can join the union and enjoy full equality with other members — or they can find employment in some other industry. The coal industry in this country is now organized.



Courier 2-10-40

Busy though he was, John L. Lewis, president of the United Mine Workers of America and of the Congress of Industrial Organizations, took time out at the Columbus convention to give Horace R. Cayton, well-known labor writer who covered the convention for The Courier, a special message for the working people who read The Courier. Bread and jobs are the chief problems of the Negro worker asserted Mr. Lewis. He is shown on the left and Mr. Cayton at the right.—Courier staff photo by Taylor.

Ninety per cent of the coal-producing areas are at present under contract.

The question today is not whether Negroes should join the union, but what role they should play in the organization. The role they are playing in the United Mine Workers of America was evident from their behavior at the convention.

NEGROES AT CONVENTION

Negroes were everywhere in evidence in the convention. Of the 2,400 delegates, approximately three hundred were Negroes. Nearly one hundred delegates came from West Virginia. Other large delegations were from Pennsylvania, Illinois and Alabama.

A good proportion of these men, in addition to being elected delegates, held office in their local lodges. In some instances, they had been elected even when the local was predominantly white. Others held elective positions in Southern lodges. Hartford Knight, from Birmingham, Ala., for example, was a former president of Local 6009 in Birmingham. At the time he was elected president the lodge membership was equally divided between Negro and white members.

TEAGUE SERVES ON RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

In the convention, Thomas Farmer, of District 30, was a member of the Committee on Officers' Reports. On the powerful Committee on Resolutions, Robert Teague from District 20 was placed.

Further evidence of the role which Negroes are playing in the United Mine Workers of America was evident in the number of Negroes who held important appointive positions from the International Office.

Among the important officials of the district organizations, the writer talked to the following: W. H. Nelson, Charleston, Va., compensation adjuster of the Compensation Bureau; B. H. Jenkins, district representative and vice-president of the West Virginia State Industrial Council; Nelson Beatty, district representative for District 17 (West Virginia); Harry James, district representative for District 17; Fred Stubbs, district representative for District 17; Johnson, district representative for District 5 (Pennsylvania); Hartford Knight, district representative for District 20 (Alabama) and Thomas Starks, international representative.

All of these men hold important and responsible positions and deal with both the Negro and white membership and the mine operators. Their salaries range from $2,000 to $3,600 a year.

BREAKING DOWN RACE BARRIERS

To the writer, this convention was the most democratic gathering he had ever attended. The entire emphasis of the meeting was on the protection of democratic principles in government. Several resolutions were upon the question of civil rights and the extension of our democratic institutions to include the Negro.

The relations between the races were at all times most cordial. Delegates from West Virginia and Alabama had their banquets together and informed the managers of the hotels that they would tolerate no discrimination of their brothers.

At the convention, whites and Negroes mingled freely and without tension. Negro delegates, in the debates, argued their points with their white opponents without show of undue deference or antagonism, and were received just as were other speakers.

ALABAMA DELEGATES RIDE TRAIN TOGETHER

Most interesting was the delegation from Alabama. District Representative Hartford Knight stated that of the forty-seven delegates from that district nineteen were egroes. All of the delegates came up on the train together.

"We all slept in the same car—a Negro below and a white man above or the reverse, and we all ate together in the dining car."

"The union," continued Knight, "is doing more to break down race prejudice than any other organization in the State. It has brought about a better understanding between the races because in the union egroes and whites associate together."

Several things stood out vividly to an observer of this convention:

First, there will be in this country a tremendous struggle between organized labor and the reactionary forces which oppose it. The CIO and its most important international—the United Mine Workers of America—have made phenomenal gains during these past few years and labor is now on the march—taking the offensive against the coming reaction.

Second, the Negro can and has found an important place for himself in the CIO movement, and especially in the United Mine Workers. The alternative to joining organized labor in these industries will be, eventually, their inability to obtain employment. While on the other hand, the unions have so far scrupulously maintained absolute racial equality. The fight for union democracy, if there is to be one, must take place with the structure of the union organizations.

Third, the CIO is becoming a positive force in national politics, and is not satisfied to follow the A. F. of L. policy of rewarding their friends and punishing their enemies. Labor now demands a voice in the policy-forming agencies of the government and has outlined its demands and platform to which candidates must address themselves.

Fourth, the fundamental needs of the Negro population, both as Negroes and as poor people, are finding political expression in the demands of the CIO. egro unionists (and their number is increasing) are turning more and more to their union organizations for political leadership. An alliance between the great body of Negroes and the progressive union organizations may in a relatively short time be possible. Those Negro leaders who see the trend and concern themselves with these fundamental economic problems will receive the support of the masses—the others will find themselves bankrupt of a program in the face of this vigorous and aggressive movement. We will have in the near future, perhaps, the development of a labor party. A party which would include the unemployed, and the Negroes. Or we may have, with the victory of the reactionary elements, a form of American fascism. In this struggle which will and must include the Negro, the powerful figure which towers above all others is that of the bushy-eyebrowed, lion-maned JOHN L. LEWIS.

Red Caps' Union Waging Contest On Three Fronts

Washington Tribune
Washington, D.C.
9-7-40

CHICAGO—Swinging into high gear with perfect co-ordinated organizational precision and efficiency the United Transport Service Employees of America is in the midst of completing preparations for its frontal attack upon the railway industry, in the attempt to successfully secure the well-being of the nation's red caps, station porters and ushers.

With over twenty-five railroad companies covered by contracts which control approximately $2,000,000 annually in wages, the UTSEA is mobilizing its entire membership for a productive campaign on three major fronts; namely, the 10c bag fee controversy before the Interstate Commerce Commission; the $5,000,000 wage recovery suit before the federaltion courts and the jurisdictional case before the National Mediation Board.

The hearings on the 10 cent baggage fee is scheduled to be heard Sept. 9 at the Netherland Hotel in Cincinnati before Examiner Claude A. Rice of the Interstate Commerce Commission.

The hearing is a result of a complaint filed by a passenger and the UTSEA entered the proceedings supporting the passenger's contention as to the illegality of the fee. In addition the UTSEA seeks to determine the status of many of its contracts negotiated on the basis of the bag charge.

In connection with this hearing, the Union plans to have the Commission issue subpeanas for nearly fifty witnesses many of whom will be employees of the various railroad companies. The Union has also inaugurated a campaign to secure over 300,000 protest signatures among railroad passengers.

RED CAPS IN UNION BATTLE ON 3 FRONTS

Hearing On Ten Cent Baggage Fee Slated For Sept. 9th

Swinging into high gear with coordinated organizational precision and efficiency, the United Transport Service Employes of America is in the midst of completing preparations for its frontal attack upon the railway industry, in the attempt to successfully secure the well-being of the nations red caps, station porters and ushers.

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The wage recovery suit is scheduled for a hearing during the latter part of September in the United States District court at Chicago. Although nine similar suits have been filed in various federal court districts, the pivotable suit is maintained in the North Illinois district.

The case before the National Education board involves a dispute between the UTSEA and the Brotherhood of Railway Clerks, and AFL affiliate. It concerns the legality of arbitrary scope agreements with railroad companies covering many crafts and classes of employment.

Red Caps Union Completing Plans For Court Fights On Three Fronts

New York Post
NOV 30 1940

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9 Suits Already Filed

The wage recovery suit is scheduled for a hearing during the latter part of September in the U. S. District Court at Chicago. Although nine similar suits have been filed in various federal court districts, the pivotable suit is maintained in the Northern Illinois district. Last week, additional suits were filed against the Columbus Union Depot Company and the Indianapolis Terminal Company. In an effort to determine the exact amount of wages due and to salvage as much out of the suit as possible, the railroads have taken the position that no red cap can be included in the suits, unless he has authorized the plaintiff in writing to represent him. To-date, over 75 percent of the nation's red caps have signified their desire to be included in the suits in the form of written designations to the Union. The Union has announced that only those signing these designations will be presented to the court for final settlement.

The case before the National Mediation Board involves a dispute between the UTSEA and the Brotherhood of Railway Clerks, an AFL affiliate. It concerns the legality of arbitrary scope agreements with railroad companies covering many crafts and classes of employment. This case is probably considered one of the most significant in the history of the Railway Labor Act, since the practice has operated unfavorably to thousands of Negro railroad workers who are not permitted to join the standard white brotherhoods, and who hitherto have been forced out of the industry by the job control mechanisms in many of these agreements.

Fired Red Caps Are Reinstated at Penn Station

OCT 1 2 1940
Afro American
Baltimore Md.

NEW YORK. — All red caps recently fired at the Pennsylvania Station following drumhead trials, for alleged failure to give passengers change or receipts on the company's 10-cents-a-bag system, have been reinstated, it was announced by Earl Adams, chairman of Transport Service, Local 602.

The United Transport Service Employees of America, the red caps' union, seeking abolition of the per-bag systems, protested that a score of the men had been convicted of dishonesty on the testimony of a company spotter.

System Called Unfair

Most of the ousted men had long service records, one 28 years, and others were officers or prominent in the red caps' union. hTe actual conditions under which the system works is said to be such that a spotter may trap any red cap whom he desires to entangle.

As it works, the system is said to be all in favor of the company, forces the porter into a "speedup" program, and deprives service of persons who most need it. The pporters are paid 39 cents for each hour worked.

Pennsylvania Station adopted the per-bag system on June 1. Other railroads acted simultaneously. The red caps' union has already taken legal steps to defeat the system but makes it plain that the traveling public needs to know what is happening.

Union Wins Job Back for Negro Red Cap Here

NOV 30 1940

Benjamin Ransau, red cap at the Pennsylvania station was back on his job yesterday, reinstated with back pay since July 9 when he was fired because of an alleged argument with a passenger.

His union, Local 602, United Transportation Service Employes of America fought his case through the whole of the grievance machinery and took it to the Railway Labor Adjustment Board, when the company agreed to make the reinstatement.

New York

The union will hold an election at its meeting Monday night, E. C. Adams, its president running unopposed for re-election. Secretary-treasurer E. C. Robinson and M. L. Ashby, second vice-president are unopposed.

There is a contest on the first vice-presidency, P. K. Wright and A. B. Marecheau; and recording secretaryship, F. J. Brunson and R. T. Ash. An executive board of seven will be elected from 11 running.

RED CAPS ABOLISH 'UNDIGNIFIED' TITLE

Brotherhood of Porters Alters Name to United Transport Service Employes

CAPS STILL RED, HOWEVER

Members Felt Old Term Had No Meaning and Little Prestige, They Explain

To add dignity to their work members of the International Brotherhood of Red Caps voted yesterday to change their name to United Transport Service Employes of America. The action was taken by delegates to the union's second annual convention at the Emma Ransom House of the Young Women's Christian Association, 175 West 137th Street.

The men who carry bags in railroad terminals will continue to wear red caps, but they believe the new name will increase their prestige, according to Ernest Calloway of Chicago, secretary of the constitution committee, which recommended the change.

The Interstate Commerce Commission has ruled that station porters are railroad employes, Mr. Calloway said, and the "dignity" added to their position by this decision prompted the group to seek a new title. The members felt that the term "red cap" had no meaning anyway, Mr. Calloway observed.

Continuation of the union's fight to have tips excluded from the computation of wages under the Federal Wage and Hour Law was authorized by the convention. When the law went into effect most railroads decided to apply tips against the 25-cents-an-hour minimum established by Congress. This year the minimum has been raised to 30 cents an hour.

As part of its effort to obtain a basic wage in which tips will not figure, the union has filed suits in Chicago and Cincinnati for $3,000,000, which it contends is due its members in back pay.

The delegates endorsed the Gavagan Anti-Lynching Bill, now pending in Congress, and urged that the United States keep out of war. They recommended that a referendum be held before this country makes any military move.

The convention will close today.

Red Caps Union Intervenes In 10 Cent Baggage Charge Hearings Before Interstate Commerce Comm

CHICAGO, Ill. — The United Transport Service Employees of America, representing a majority of the nation's red caps, today filed a petition to intervene in the ten cents baggage fee hearings to be held before the Interstate Commerce Commission, September 9 at Cincinnati, Ohio, it was announced by Willard S. Townsend, president of the Union.

The hearing is a result of a formal complaint filed before the Commission by Mrs. Ida M. Stopher of Cincinnati against the Cincinnati Union Terminal Company. Mrs. Stopher protested the payment to the company of ten cents fee for the handling of luggage which she had turned over to a red cap employee of the company. She asked that the company be asked to answer charges of violations of various sections of the Interstate Commerce Act.

The entrance of the red caps union into the controversy is based on the nature of recent contract revisions with a number of railroad companies covering the disposition of the income received from the ten cents baggage fee, union officials stated. Supporting the contention of the attorneys for Mrs. Stopher as to the illegality of the fee placed upon passengers, the Union maintains that it has been compelled by the imposition of the illegal charge to negotiate wages for red caps on an illegal basis, which has resulted in the wholesale espionage, intimidation and coercion among the employees by the railroads.

Seeking a definition of the status of these contracts, the Union in its intervening petition asks that a number of major railroad companies, with which its holds agreements, be made parties to the proceedings along with the Cincinnati Union Terminal Company.

Willard S. Townsend, president of the UTSEA, in commenting upon the affects of the ten cents charge placed on the passenger, stated that the plan is merely a continuation of the attempt of the railroads to escape the responsibility of paying the red caps out of the legitimate funds of the companies. "It virtually amounts" Mr. Townsend declared, "to the payment of red caps salaries by an additional levy on the general public and merely stands as a more formal tipping system. It might be of interest to the public that the nation's railroads pay annually in wages $1,700,000,000.

Were all red caps placed on a legitimate wage basis, the railroads estimate that the cost would not exceed $4,000,000 annually which is less than one half of one per cent of the annual pay roll of the railroads.

New Name May Hurt Red Caps

Conflict Between CIO and AFL Feared by President of Local 606

BALTIMORE

The recent changing of the name of the International Brotherhood of Red Caps to United Transport Service Employees of America might prove disastrous to the red caps' union here, it was learned, this week.

According to Steven Wright of 1127 N. Monroe Street, who is president of Local 606 of the country-wide union, the organization here is an independent one, and has been trying for some time to become affiliated with the American Federation of Labor.

Sees CIO and AFL Conflict

These attempts have been unsuccessful because the A. F. of L. officials insist that the union come in under agreements that are altogether not favorable and to the best interests of the body, he said.

Mr. Wright stated that it was his opinion that the CIO is attempting to gain jurisdiction over several of the red cap unions, and this is probably a result of the official changing of the organization's name.

CIO jurisdiction would be a decided disadvantage here, he said, as other unions operating at the Pennsylvania Station, where his local has its members, are all affiliated with the A. F. of L.

Why Red Caps Changed Name

PHILADELPHIA.—The International Brotherhood of Red Caps in the recent New York convention decided to change its name to United Transport Service Workers of America.

Why? In order to affiliate with the CIO, according to Alfred J. McGhee and James F. Fair, of the local Red Caps organization.

Gives CIO a Foothold

All of the big railroad unions at present are AF of L, Mr. McGhee said, and the CIO hasn't a look-in, but if the Red Caps agree to become United Transport Workers, they can take in flagmen, brakemen and firemen or any other railroad workers not now in the AF of L.

This will be the long-sought wedge by means of which the CIO can get into the railroad systems.

This may help the CIO, Mr. McGhee said, but it won't help Red Caps who will be the sole CIO union in the midst of a lot of AF of L's.

Red Caps Wage Suit Being Fought Out On Three Fronts

Journal & Guide Norfolk Va.
9-3-40

Twenty-Five Railroad Companies Face Complaints of Porters and Ushers In Wide Controversy

CHICAGO—Swinging into high gear with perfect co-ordinated organizational precision and efficiency, the United Transport Service Employees of America is in the midst of completing preparation for its frontal attack upon the railway industry, in the attempt to successfully secure the well-being of the nation's red caps, station porters and ushers.

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HEARING NEXT WEEK

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ADDITIONAL SUITS

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VICTORY WON BY RED CAPS

new york city
new york, n.y.

Suspended And Dismissed Employees Ordered Back To Work After 10 Days

BULLETIN

THE NEW YORK AGE and Managing Editor Ludlow W. Werner were sharing the spotlight and credit for having aided greatly in the victory which came to Negro porters in the revetsal this week of suspensions and dismissals of employees of the Pennsylvania and New York Central Railroads.

The AGE was in receipt Tuesday of a telegram from Earle Adams, president of Local 602, United Transport Service Employees of America, official union of the redcaps, which read:

"REDCAPS ALL OVER THE COUNTRY AND ESPECIALLY WE, OF THE PENNSYLVANIA STATION N Y CITY ARE EXTREMELY GRATEFUL FOR TIMELY ARTICLE BY MR. WERNER APPEARING IN THIS WEEK'S ISSUE OF N Y AGE."

Shocked into penitent action by he widespread publicity given heir attempt to put into effect a wave of wholesale ousters of station porters on flimsy charges, executives of the New York Central nd Pennsylvania Railroads went nto complete reverse this week on ulings which had been violently protested by the redcaps' organiation, The United Transport Service Union.

The New York Age learned on Monday morning that more than dozen men who had been suspended indefinitely on charges of ailure to turn in monies collected n tips and to issue proper receipts, would be reinstated this week, the ompanies having suddenly decided to give the suspensions a ten-

OCT 3 1940

Eight porters who received notices on Saturday, September 21, ordering them to appear before ompany representatives the following day and who were then uspended, went back on the job onday after a loss of $24 in pay. everal others who had been sumarily discharged were put back work.

The Union had based their prosts to the penalties imposed by e railroads on the contention at the defendant's accusers were nnamed and unidentified company otters or spies of the railroad systems. They had further protested the meagre time given the accused to answer charges the day after notice was received. An additional unfairness, it was charged, was the harsh penalty of dismisals and the indefinite suspensions which left the porters suspended in he position of being neither employed or unemployed. In this tatus, they were naturally unable o collect unemployment insurance nd unaware of when they would e allowed to return to work.

Notification of the reversal of the penalty imposed by the Pennsylvania Railroad was received by the porters from Station Master Ted L. Hawkes whose former attitude had been attacked by the porters.

Law Firm Active

Meanwhile the Union had enlisted the legal aid of the firm of Reape and Stevens, 209 West 125th street, to represent them in this matter. Commenting on the charges brought that porters had failed to give customers receipts for the standard ten-cent tip and to return them their change when more han a ten-cent-coin was tendered, Attorney Harold Stevens told The New York Age:

"This entire situation is the result of a conspiracy on the part of he companies to increase revenues nd decrease personnel with a calous disregard to the rights of seniority and contract conditions of he employees."

Stevens pointed out that in many ases customers will offer porters a quarter or half-dollar and turn away without waiting for receipts or change.

"It is very unfair to expect a porter to run after a customer who often doesn't want to be bothered about a receipt for a ten-cent tip and just as often meant for the porter to keep the change. Under company regulations, the men are allowed all money over the ten-cent minimum, but must at first tender a receipt and make change. What was evidently done was this: The company spotters gave the porters quarters or half-dollars and turned and walked away. Thus a situation was created through which the companies could charge dishonesty."

OCT 3 1940

Stevens also pointed out that most of the twelve to fourteen men suspended or dismissed were older employees. The attorney said the railroads have been attempting to weed out veteran employees who cannot hustle as fast as their junspend all the time upon other people doing for them what they can do for themselves. The Negro must learn to support his own leadership. Dr. Brown further stated that the Negro is failing in his opportunity for the highest self-expression. She said that the race must learn to discover more of its talent and genius and not wait all the time for white people to discover it.

OCT 3 1940

Musical selections were rendered by the choir of the church under the leadership of George Leonard Matthews; Jonathan Brice, who rendered a selection by Bach; Miss Daisy Harding sang "Repent Ye" by Scott, and Mr. Matthews gave an organ solo.

LABOR [1940]
UNIONS, STRIKES ETC.

VIRGINIA

Laundry Strike Enters Third Week

Walkout Being Supported By Petersburgers

Special to Journal and Guide

PETERSBURG, Va. — Little change was noted early this week in the situation as the strike of laundry workers here entered its third week. Significant developments included the use by the laundry owners of white women and colored men employees in an attempt to break the walkout.

Leaders of the striking laundry workers announced that the strike would be in force until the following demands are met: 44 hour work week, observance of all national holidays, minimum wage of 20 cents an hour, and union recognition.

At strike headquarters it was stated that at least one of the laundries affected by the strike has agreed to all of the demands except union recognition.

The strikers were said to have been encouraged by the refusal of hundreds of Petersburg citizens to patronize the laundries. Members of unions affiliated with the American Federation of Labor are withholding all of their laundry work until the strike is settled, it was stated.

David Alston of Norfolk, state organizer for the A. F. of L. said that "there has not been a single case of any worker returning to work and it is remarkable how colored women have refused to accept jobs as strike breakers."

Local colored citizens have shown deep interest in the outcome of the strike, according to Mr. Alston. The Rev. J. B. Hill, pastor of the R. Z. U. Apostolic Church, the Rev. Harry W. Roberts, a member of the faculty of Virginia State College, J. A. Jackson, and H. B. Thompson were among the speakers at a meeting held Monday night.

Mr. Jackson and R. L. Hurtt headed a citizens committee in supporting the union at a mass meeting which was held at the Community Center. Facts surounding the strike were explained to the public. Local and state leaders in the organized labor movement, as well as other leading citizens, were among the speakers.

Bricklayers Asked To Pay Fee Of $100

Laborers Told To Pay $10; $3 In Advance

NOV 2 1940

NEWPORT NEWS, Va. — No Negro skilled or semi-skilled labor will be used on government financed housing projects here in the process of construction, unless they are members of a labor union.

This is the ultimatum of contractors to numerous applicants who have officially protested the edict to Ward Palmer, secretary of the Housing Authority, and E. P. Hornlein, manager of the local office of the Virginia Employment Service Bureau.

H. D. Watkins, Sr., H. Douglas Watkins, Jr., and Fred McCoy of Newport News; William Vincent, George Merritt and Samuel P. Sykes of Hampton, all experienced bricklayers whose qualifications are known to the employment office applied for work on the Marshall Court project, a national defense program for white employes at the local shipyard.

ASK $100 FEE

They report that the labor foreman advised them only union labor is being used, but their applications would be considered if they are willing to pay a union fee of $100 with a down payment of $25 and $2 per day installment.

They refused on the grounds that none of them ever paid more than $32.50 to join a bricklayers union to which some belonged in North Carolina, Baltimore and New York. Two Negro bricklayers are at work on the Marshall Court project, brought here by the contractors, a Baltimore firm.

The men pointed out that it is customary to send $8 of the joining fee to the union headquarters in New York, the remainder, in this case, $92, going to the local union which is white.

NOT ADMITTED

Local white unions do not admit Negro members and look with disfavor on a separate Negro union, the complainants charge.

L. N. Stephens, well known Phoebus contractor, told this newspaper in an interview that he was informed by the labor foreman on the Harbor Homes slum clearance project, that no Negro carpenters will be employed. Abraham L. Hudgins, a veteran contractor of Hertford, N. C. who came here to investigate opportunities for his corps of bricklayers, painters and carpenters, also complained that he was advised no Negro skilled labor is needed. Two of his men were immediately placed on private construction by the employment office.

$10 FOR LABORERS

A number of laborers who applied for work tearing down buildings in the slum-clearance area, reported they were asked to pay a union fee of $10, with $3 down payment and the rest by installment. Bricklayers and laborers asserted that the requested union fees carried no guarantees of sustained employment until completion of the project.

OFFICIALS SPEAK

Both Mr. Hornlein, and LeRoy F. Ridley, Negro member of the Housing Authority, informed this newspaper it was their understanding that the MarshallCourt , and Orcutt Homes projects, the latter also a national defense undertaking, for Negro employes at the yard, were to be constructed with skilled and semi-skilled labor on the open-shop plan. The Orcutt units are to be started soon.

Mr. Mornlein had his staff investigate the men's complaints and placed his findings before officials of the State Employment Bureau in Richmond with whom he conferred last Friday.

Negro Processing Workers Win Virginia Strike

Daily Worker
Newsdesk U.S.

NOV 28 1940

(Special to the Daily Worker)

SUFFOLK, Va., Nov. 27.—The Negro workers in this infamous dime-an-hour belt gained an important victory today through the CIO with signing of contracts covering 500 employes in the country's three largest peanut processing plants. The contracts bring to an end the strike at the Lumis Peanut Corp. which has been on since Nov. 8, Negro women pickets defying rain, wind and cold, keeping it shut.

The wage increases will total $15,000 yearly for the workers and the women employes are to get a $5 Christmas bonus.

Contracts were signed in behalf of the workers by Frank Graham, Negro president of Peanut Workers Union, Local 110, United Cannery, Agricultural, Packing and Allied Workers and by William Haber, organizer of the union in the area.

The plants covered are American Peanut Corp., Pond Bros and the Lumis Co. Plans are under way now to organize the entire peanut industry here.

Mary Winston, 70-year-old Negro chairlady of the Bond Bros. shop said:

"Yesterday the white bosses used to lay awake night figuring what they were going to do to us. Today they lay in bed worrying what the Negro workers are going to do to them."

Race Workers In Dixie See Bright Spot In Labor's Heavens Over Richmond, Va.

Courier Pittsburgh Pa.
OCT 12 1940

Negro Seaboard Workers In Packing and Allied Industries Reported To Be Joining the A.M.C. and B.W. of N.A.

RICHMOND, Va., Oct. 10—One of the bright spots seen in the labor firmament by observing Negro workmen in this section of the country is the local here of the Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen of North America containing men engaged in the packing industry and allied businesses like fish and poultry enterprises. It is a bright spot in their minds because it is composed of both white and colored workers and at present its hard-working president is reported to be Waverly Hopkins, 1004 St. James street, a Negro.

While this may seem a bit unusual to the rank and file of both white and colored laboring men in some parts of the nation, it is not unusual in the butcher workmen's union, which as far back as 1881 has not allowed the color, race or religious question to hamper any worker's rights and privileges as a member of the organization. In other words, there has been more than three generations of good will expressed in both words and actions by white and colored members to one another, and to all others who have ever thought of joining.

In fact, throughout the country there are a number of Negroes who have shown the proper qualifications taking the lead in this large organization, and as a result—and especially in the Eastern seaboard recently—men engaged as workers in the packing business and allied industries have joined.

They argue that every one of the 40,000-odd Negro workers in America engaged in this kind of work should join for the liberal benefits they receive, because in the organization their words are as good as the next workmen's; the fact that it was one of the few, if any more actually did, union organizations which stood firmly back of the statement of its president, Pat J. Gorman, who recently declared himself in favor of the anti-lynch bill now in Congress for consideration. This, they assert, is the best proof possible that the Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen's International Union, an A. F. of L. affiliate, is strictly an American institution for American workmen.

9,000 White and Colored Shipyard Workers Form

Named to Board

Staff Correspondence

NEWPORT NEWS, Va.—Exhibiting the same high degree of respect for constituted authority, and demonstrating that same spirit of tolerance which won for them the admiration of their fellows in other industries as being among the best disciplined and governed, over 9,000 white and colored employes of the Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Company organized a new agency for collective bargaining last week.

The new organization, the Peninsula Shipbuilders' Association, supplants the old Employes' Representatives' Committee, outlawed disbanded last year by the United States Supreme Court.

OPENS OFFICE

Temporary officers speaking for the new agency, said it will be divorced completely from any association with the shipyard management, and shall conform in every respect with the stipulations of the Wagner Labor Relations Act. Nor will it be connected with any labor union, being independent in character.

The Supreme Court ruling disbanding the old agency sustained a previous finding of a trial examiner of the National Labor Relations Board, two years ago, that it did not fully comply with the requirements of the labor act.

NEGRO REPRESENTATION

There were 21 Negro employes represented on the old committee. Under the new setup, the same proportionate representation will be accorded this group of workers.

The new organization was previously discussed and planned through a series of meetings held at the Central Labor Union Hall, and the Corporation Courtroom. An office has been opened at 206-37th Street, opened daily, except Sunday, from 9 a. m to 9 p. m. to accept applications.

Elected to the executive board of the Virginia Federation of Labor at its annual meeting in Danville on Tuesdsay was David Alston, above, prominent local labor and fraternal leader. Mr. Alston, who is Virginia organizer for the American Federation of Labor, was named a member of the board at large to fill a new position created by the convention. Mr. Alston is the only member of his race holding membership on the board. He was one of a group of 90 local delegates who attended the labor meeting.

VA. PROCESSING WORKERS WIN STRIKE, BONUS

CIO Women Triumph After Holding Picket Line Since Nov. 8

DEC 7 1940

SUFFOLK, Va.—(CNA)—The workers in this dime-an-hour belt gained an important victory this week through the C.I.O. with the signing of contracts covering 500 employes in the country's three largest peanut processing plants.

The contracts bring to an end the strike at the Lummis Peanut Corp., which has been on since November 8, with women pickets defying rain, wind and cold, to keep the plant shut.

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The plants covered are American Peanut Corp., Pond Bros., and the Lumis Co. Plans are under way now to organize the entire plant industry here.

Organized Labor In Norfolk

NOV 23 1940

The history of the Negro in organized labor in Norfolk is so closely associated with the genesis of the movement nationally, that it is almost impossible to discuss one without a thorough consideration of the other. And for the same reason comparisons between the early pioneer attempts to gain for the colored working man the full benefits of his labor to which he was entitled, and his present significant status in the field of organized labor, naturally present themselves.

History records that on February 21, 1870, a large interracial gathering was held in Washington, D. C. to consider a proposal to send a representative into the South to organize Negro labor. Isaac Myers, pioneer labor leader, was selected for the task and called the first meeting of Negro organized labor here on April 18, 1870.

Mr. Myers, who was president of the Colored National Labor Convention and president of the National Labor Union, the first labor group in the United States to become national in scope, asserted that the day had passed "for the establishment of labor organizations based upon color."

MOVEMENT COLLAPSED IN 1900

The movement at first drew only a small percentage of recruits, but in August 1875, delegates from all sections of the state assembled in a colored labor convention in Richmond. Because to many colored Virginians of that day politics was more attractive than labor organizations, the organization soon passed into the hands of politicians, the work being taken over by an organization known as the Knights of Labor, but by 1900 the organized labor movement among Negroes had all but collapsed.

Its revival, especially among colored working men in Norfolk and the Hampton Roads area, may be said to have occurred in the years immediately preceding, during and shortly following World War, No. 1.

Today, the Negro laboring man in Norfolk and the surrounding area is a factor to be reckoned with. Largest single group of organized workers are those affiliated with the International longshoremen's Associataion with a total membership of more than 3,000 men in the Port of Hampton Roads. Eight of the locals, comprising both coastwise and deep sea groups, are located in the City of Norfolk alone, with several others in Newport News and Portsmouth.

LARGEST ORGANIZED GROUP

These workers comprise the largest single labor organization in Norfolk as well as in the state, according to David Alston, state organizer for the American Federation of Labor, and member of the executive board of the Virginia State Federation of Labor, a post to which he was elected at the last annual meeting in Danville, Va., in May of this year.

With the exception of longshoremen employed by the Eastern Steamship Lines, all local waterfront workers are covered by ILA wage and hour agreements. Although local union longshoremen have experienced a decided slump because of shipping conditions occasioned by the European War, the embargo against scrap iron, and other factors, a new working agreement for coal trimmers covering membership in Locals 1021, 1221, 1379, effective as of October 17, has recently been negotiated.

The new pact provides for a five per cent increase in the pay rate, the highest ever received by this particular group. Approximately 5000 workers are involved.

Union longshoremen in the Port of Hampton Roads are represented officially by George W. Millner, second vice president of the International Longshoremen's Association, one of the outstanding labor leaders in the United States.

INCREASED WAGES

Under Mr. Millner's leadership the International Longshoremen's group have enrolled as high as 6,000 dock workers in Hampton Roads ports. By 1938 the union had won a guaranteed scale of four hours work daily at 85 cents an hour for straight time, and $1.20 an hour overtime, with double time for Sundays and holidays, and special rates for handling dangerous or explosives cargoes.

Even better working conditions and wage scales exist today as the result of the efforts of Mr. Millner and his associates who attend the annual ILA wage conferences in New York in September of each year.

Coastwise and ocean-going steamship lines, all docking at Hampton Roads ports, employ hundreds of colored stewards, waiters, cooks, and deckhands, most of whom are affiliated with some labor organization.

But union activities among Norfolk's colored working men and women are by no means confined to those engaged in pusuits associted with the sea. Only recently a local of the Master and Journeymen Barbers Association was organized here. Workers in local fertilizer plants hold membership in Chemical Workers Local 22273 of which Fred Trotman, Jr., is president and business agent. The effectiveness of their program is attested to by the fact that the union has only recently successfully negotiated working agreements with three of the largest fertilizer concerns in the Tidewater area.

The new agreements provide, among other things, one week's vacation with pay, guarantees of two hours pay when the men are called out, and four hours on Sunday, special overtime rates, and other provisions. The union membership totals well over 1,000 men.

Workers employed in railroad packing sheds are organized under the aegis of the Agricultural and Allied Produce Workers Union, while there also exists a Hod Carriers and Common laborers Local No. 307. Preston Faison of 1309 Anne Street, is secretary.

COOKS AND WAITERS ORGANIZED

The only organization of cooks and waiters in the State of Virginia is located at the Norfolk Naval Hospital in Portsmouth. Known as Cooks and Waiters Local No. 57, Joseph Whitaker of 631 King Street, Portsmouth, is its secretary.

Generally speaking the bulk of employment for colored workers in Norfolk is found in agriculture, government work, bakeries, barberships, tobacco factories, cleaning and pressing establishments, laundries, hotels, cafes, railroads, shipping and domestic service.

EDITORIAL

Labor Unions Must Not Press Down A Crown Of Thorns Upon the Brow of Negro Labor

Enterprise - 6-28-40

"I will not recommend for membership in this union any other than members of the white race." Seattle, Washington

The above oath is taken by members of the Aeronautical Mechanics Union No. 751 upon initiation and repeated at each meeting.

That oath is A. M. U. No. 751's proof that it is 100% American.

That oath is proof that A. M. U. No. 751 is a real democratic (?) union. It is' because Mr. Hugh Lundquist, bargaining agent of that union, said so.

It has been stated on good authority that a man named Culpepper was run out of hell for lying. That man ought to be recalled and Mr. Lundquist given that honor.

That union may be 100% American; we doubt it. We are compelled to use an interrogation point.

The only thing of which we are certain is that no more effective means of destruction could be devised than depriving men of employment, thus leaving their wives and children to the cruel mercy of welfare agencies, who care as much for distress as that democratic? union cares about Negroes.

The Northwest Enterprise does not believe that such an oath is sanctioned by any large industry. **A. M. U. No. 751 is in absolute control of labor at the Boeing Airplane plant.**

What could be more tragic? An industry that employs 7,000 men, the force soon to be doubled, and not one job may be given to a Negro, not even Crispus Attacks, no, not even though he is taxed to aid such industry.

To the Northwest Enterprise, such an oath can have but one and only one purpose: America is growing more & more concerned about groups seeking to undermine the country and betray it in the hands of its enemies or giving them aid and comfort.

Enterprise 6-28-40 Seattle Washington

Negroes are black and cannot be mistaken for "Reds." Negroes know no other country save America. They will never march under any other banner than the American flag. A. M. U. No. 751 can take no chance with men whose patriotism has never in all history been questioned.

America is democracy's last stand. Every patriotic American knows the United States is the hope of the world. Sharing its civilization and glory is the melting pot. All have shared its benefits and all should share its obligations.

If the Government continues to permit labor unions to run our industrial plants upon a basis of race, creed or class, then, despite, all that government may do, democracy is gone with the wind.

If the government will lift this cruel life destroying cross Negroes throughout the United States will patiently bear all other crosses as willingly as Christ bore His cross up Calvary's hill, and make the welken ring with "My Country 'Tis of Thee."

Negro and White Women of South Unite Against War, Profiteering

Miners' wives, mothers, sisters and daughters of West Virginia recently formed the Marion County Women's Trade Union League, an auxiliary of Negro and white women of the United Mine Workers of America.

LABOR - 1940
UNIONS, STRIKES ETC.

WISCONSIN

Negro Calls for Unity to Smash Ban on Jobs

Daily Worker
New York N.Y.

DEC 23 1940

Milwaukee, Wis.
Workers' Correspondence Dept.:

The fact is that Jim Crow is being practised in the South, but it is also being practised in the North. There are factories, plants, industries in Wisconsin who do not work Negroes for some reason or another. Let us workers ask ourselves why? We might answer this question by asking the question who profits by such evil and undemocratic practices?

Let us single out, just at random one of these industries, say the meat packing industry. When the packinghouse workers were organizing, fighting to gain better working conditions, shorter hours and better pay, strikes resulted. The big business interests went out through the South and got Negro workers into the packinghouses here by tearing down the gains made by the union, further building a hatred of the Negro people and breaking the strikes.

This racial practice was used at other times to hamper the progress of the workers. But when the 1929 depression came and the CIO was born and we Negroes had learned who our friends were, we not only cooperated with our fellow workers, but in many instances took the lead in our union.

IN UNION NOW

Let us right here single out one of the big four, Armour, Swift, Cudahy and Wilson. Let us say Swift and Co., Plankinton Packing has hired a male Negro worker in the last ten years that wasn't working in and out previously, and this plant hasn't hired a female worker that is Negro at all under no circumstances, and this same company will tell you at any time that they do not practise racial discrimination. Since we Negroes have proven to be no longer a tool of the company but an asset to the union, it seems that so far as the company is concerned, we can go back South.

Fellow trade-unionists, workers locally, nationally and foreign, until we destroy this weapon of the imperialist or fascist groups, it will always be a deadly weapon, not only to destroy our gains, but even to destroy us. On the other hand, if we attain a mutual and brotherly understanding of each other and the workers of Europe, Asia and the rest of the world, there will be world peace and security for all, and the unemployment situation will certainly be abolished.

Yours, brotherly,
Milwaukee Negro
Packing Worker.

DEC 23 1940

P. S.—Since this letter was written, the Milwaukee Youth Congress sent a delegation to the packing house employers to protest against their discrimination against Negroes in hiring. As a result, it has been reported that two Negroes were hired on Monday, Dec. 9, but fired the same day. However, 3 more Negroes were hired and are still working.

The Milwaukee County Council of the CIO had protested the week previously and this protest, in addition to the Youth Congress protest, achieved this victory.